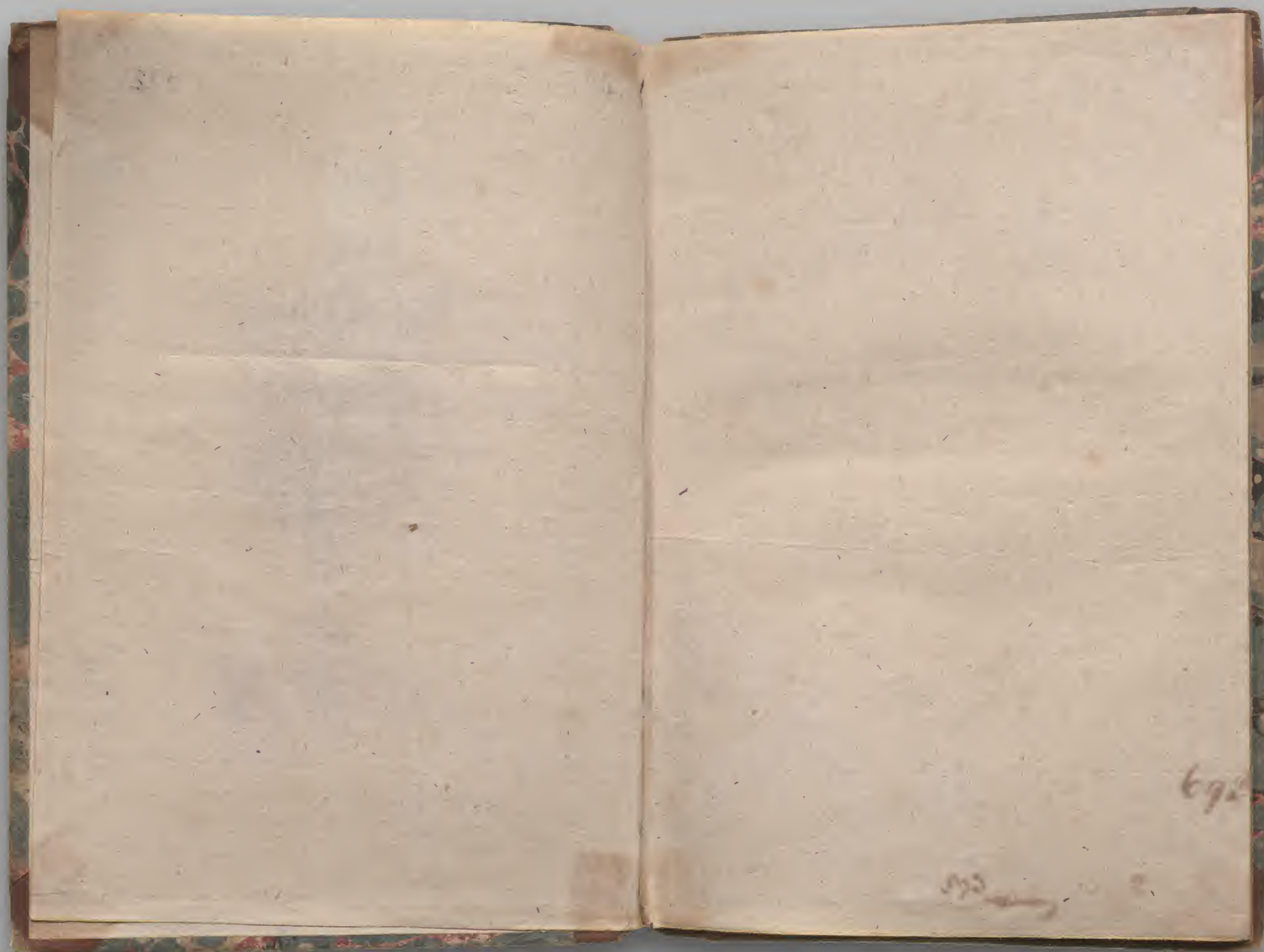






House of Falkland.





THE  
TRAGEDIE  
OF  
KING RICHARD  
THE THIRD.

Contayning his trecherous Plots, against  
his brother Clarence : The pittifull murder of his ino-  
cent Nephewes : his tiranous vsurpation : with the whole  
course of his detested life, and most  
deserved death.

As it hath beene lately Acted by the Kings Maiesties  
Seruaunts.

Newly agmented.

By William Shake-speare.



LONDON.

Printed by Iohn Norton, and are to be sold by Mathew Law,  
dwelling in Pauls Church-yard, at the Signe of the  
Foxe, neere St. Anstons gate,

15303.

1598.

1629



THE  
RICHARD  
THE THIRD.

Containing his most excellent  
and famous Victories  
over the Scots  
and the Irish  
and his most famous  
and dangerous Plots against  
the Duke of Burgundy  
and the Duke of Gloucester  
and his most famous  
and dangerous Plots against  
the Duke of Burgundy  
and the Duke of Gloucester

As it was acted by the Swan Theatre

By the Swan Theatre



*Enter Richard Duke of Gloucester, solus.*

**N**OW is the winter of discontent,  
Made glorious sommer by this Sonne of Yorke :  
And all the cloudes that low'r vpon our house,  
In the deepe bosome of the Ocean buried,  
Now are our browes bound with victorius wreathes,  
Our bruised armes hung vp for monuments.  
Our sterne alarums chang'd to merry meetings.  
Our dreadfull marches to delightfull pleasures.  
Grim-visagde war, hath smoothd his wrinkled front,  
And now insted of mounting barbed fleeces,  
To fright the soules of fearefull aduersaries,  
He capers nimble in a Ladies chamber,  
To the laciuous pleasing of a loue,  
But I that am not sharpe of sportiue trickes,  
Nor made to court an amorous looking Glasse:  
I that am rudely stampd, and want loues maiesty,  
To strut before a wanton ambling Nymph;  
I that am curtaild of this faire proportion,  
Cheated of feature by dissembling nature,  
Deform'd, vnfinisht sent before my time  
Into this breathing world halfe made vp,  
And that so lamely and vnfashionable,  
That dogs barke at me as I halt at them:  
Why I in this weake piping time of peace  
Haue no delight to passe away the time,  
Vnlesse to spie my shadow in the sunne,  
And descant one mine owne deformity :  
And therefore since I cannot proue a louer,  
To entertaine these faire well spoken dayes,  
I am determin'd to proue a villaine,  
And haue the Idle pleasures of these dayes :  
Plots haue I layd, inductions dangerous,



*The Tragedie*

By drunken prophesies libels and dreames,  
To set my brother *Clarence* and the King,  
In deadly hate the one against the other,  
And if King *Edward* be as True and iust  
As I am subtil, false and trecherous:  
This day should *Clarence* closely bee mewd vp,  
About a prophesie which sayes that G.  
Of *Edwards* heires the murderer shall be.  
Diue thoughts downe to my soule, *Enter Clarence with*  
Heere *Clarence* comes, *a Guard of men.*  
Brother, good dayes, what meane this armed guard  
That waits vpon your grace?  
*Cl.* His maiesty tending my persons safety, hath appointed  
This conduct to conuey me to the Tower.  
*Glo.* Vpon what cause?  
*Cl.* Because my name is *George*,  
*Glo.* Alacke my Lord, that fault is none of yours,  
He should for that commit your god fathers:  
O belike his maiesty hath some intent  
That you shall be new christned in the tower,  
But what is the matter *Clarence*, may I know?  
*Cl.* Yea *Richard* when I doe know, tot I protest  
As yet I doe not, but as I can learne,  
He herkens after prophesies and dreames,  
And from the crosse-row pluckes the letter G,  
And sayes a wizard told him that by G,  
His issue disinherited should be,  
And for my name of *George* begins with G,  
It followes in his thought that I am he;  
These as I learne and such like toyes as these,  
Haue moued his highnesse to commit me now.  
*Glo.* Why this it is when men are rulse by women,  
Tis not the King that sends you to the Tower,  
My Lady *Gray* his wife, *Clarence* tis she  
That tempts him to this extreamity,  
Was it not she and that good man of worship  
*Anthony Woodville* her brother there,  
That made him send Lord *Hastings* to the tower,  
From whence this present day he is deliuered?  
*We are not safe Clarence, we are not safe.*

*of Richard the Third.*

*Cl.* By heauen I thinke there is no man secur'd  
But the queenes kindred, and night walking heralds  
that truge betweene the King and *Mistis Shore*:  
Heard you not what an humble suppliant  
Lord *Hastings* was to her for his deliuey?

*Glo.* Humbly complayning to her Deity,  
Got my Lord Chamberlaine his liberty,  
He tell you what, I thinke it were our way,  
If we will keepe in fauour with the King,  
To bee her men and were her liuery,  
The iealous ore-worne widdow and her selfe,  
Since that our brother dubb them Gentlewomen,  
Are mighty gossips in this monarchy.

*Bro.* I beseech your graces both to pardon me?  
His maiesty hath straightly giuen in charge,  
That no man shall haue priuate conference,  
Of what degreec soeuer with his brother.

*Glo.* Euen so and please your worship *Brokenbury*,  
You may pertake of any thing wee say:  
We speake no treason man, we say the King  
Is wise and vertuous and the noble Queene  
Well stroke in yeares, faire and not icalous,  
We say that *Shores* wife hath a pretty foote,  
A chery lip a bonny eye, a passing pleasing tongue:  
And that the Queenes kindred are made gentle folkes:  
How say you sir, can you deny all this?

*Bro.* With this (My Lord) my selfe hath nought to do.

*Glo.* Nought to do with *Mistis Shore*, I tell thee fellow,  
He that doth nought with her excepting one,  
Were best he do it secretly alone,

*Bro.* What one my Lord?

*Glo.* Her husband knaue, wouldst thou betray me?

*Bro.* I beseech your Grace to pardon me, and withall for-  
Your conference with the noble Duke. (beare)

*Cl.* we know thy charge *Brokenbury*, and will obey,

*Glo.* We are the Queenes Abiects and must obey,

Brother farewell I will vnto the King,

And whatsoeuer you will imploy me in,

Were it to call King *Edwards* widdow sister,

A 3

I Will



*The Tragedie*

I will performe it to infranchise you,  
Meane time this deepe disgrace in brother hood,  
Touches me deeper then you can imagine.

*Cla.* I know it pleaseth neither of vs well.

*Glo.* Well your imprisonment shall not be long.  
I will deliuer you, or lie for you,  
Meane time haue patience.

*Cla.* I must perforce, farewell.

*Exit Cla.*

*Glo.* Go tread the path, that thou shalt nere returne,  
Simple plaine *Clarence*, I doe loue thee so,  
That I will shortly send thy soule to heauen,  
If heauen will take the present at our hands.  
But who comes heere the new deliuered *Hastings*.

*Enter Lord Hastings.*

*Hast.* Good time of day vnto my gracious Lord,

*Glo.* As much vnto my good Lord Chamberlaine:

Well, are you wellcome to this open aire,  
How hath your Lordship brookt imprisonment?

*Hast.* with patience (noble Lord) as prisoners must;  
But I shall liue my Lord to giue them thanks,  
That were the cause of my imprisonment.

*Glo.* No doubt, no doubt, and so shall *Clarence* too,  
For they that were your enemyes, are his,  
And haue preuaild as much on him as you.

*Hast.* More pittie that the Egle should be mewd  
While Kites and Buzzards prey at liberty.

*Glo.* What newes abroad,

*Hast.* No newes so bad abroad, as this at home:  
The King is sickly weake and melancholly,  
And his Phisicians feare him mightily.

*Glo.* now by saint *Paul* this newes is bad indeed,  
Oh he hath kept on ill diet long,  
And ouer much consumed his royall person,  
Tis very grievous to be thought vpon,  
What is he in his bed?

*Hast.* He is.

*Glo.* Go you before, and I will follow you, *Exit Hast.*  
He cannot liue I hope, and must not die  
Till *George* be packt with post horse vp to heauen:  
He in to vrge his hatred more to *Clarence*,

With

*of Richard the Third.*

With lies well steeld with weightie arguments,  
And if I faile not in my deepe intent,  
*Clarence* hath not another day to liue:  
Which done God take King *Edward* to his mercy,  
And leaue the world for me to bussell in,  
For then Ie marry *Warwicks* youngest daughter,  
What though I kill her husband and her father,  
The rediest way to make the wench amends,  
Is to become her husband and her father:  
The which will I not all so much for loue,  
As for another secret close intent,  
By marring her which I must reach vnto,  
But yet I run before my horse to market:  
*Clarence* still liues, *Edward* still raignes,  
When they are gone then must I count my gaines.

*Exit*

*Enter Lady Anne, with the herse of Henry the sixth.*

*Lady.* Set downe, set downe, your honorable Lord.  
If honor may be throwded in a hearse,  
Whil'ft I a while obsequiously lament  
The vntimely fall of verriuous *Lancaster*,  
Poore key-cold figure of a holy King,  
Pale ashes of the house of *Lancaster*,  
Thou bloudlesse remnant of that royall bloud,  
Be it lawfull that I inuocate thy Ghost,  
To heare the lamentations of poore *Anne*,  
Wife to thy *Edward*, to thy slaughtered sonne,  
Stabd by the selfe same hands that made these holes.  
Loe in those windowes that let forth thy life,  
I poure the helpelesse blame of my poore eyes,  
Curst be the hand that made the fatall holes,  
Curst be the heart, that had the heart to doe it,  
More direfull hap betide that hated wretch,  
That makes vs wretched by the death of thee:  
Then I can wish to Adders, spiders toads,  
Or any creeping venomde thing that liues.  
If euer he haue child, abortiue be it,  
Prodigious and vntimely brought to light:  
Whose vgly and vnnaturall aspect  
May fright the hopefull mother at the view,

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*The Tragicdie*

If euer he haue wife let her be mad,  
As miserable by the death of him,  
As I am made by my poore Lord and thee.  
Come now towards *Chertley* with your holy load  
Taken from *Paules* to be interred there:  
And still as you are weary of the waight,  
Rest you whiles I lament King *Henries* coarſe.

*Enter Gloucester.*

*Glo.* Stay you that beare the coarſe, and ſet it downe,  
*La.* What blacke Magitian, coniures vp this fiend  
To ſtop deuoted charitable deeds?

*Glo.* Villaine, ſet downe the coarſe or by *Saint Paul*,  
Ile make a coarſe of him that diſobeyes?

*Gen.* Stand backe and Let the coffin paſſe,

*Glo.* Vnmanner'd dog, ſtand thou when I command,  
Aduance thy halbert higher then my breaſt,  
Or by *Saint Paul* ile ſtrike thee to my ſeote,  
And ſpurne vpon thee begger for thy boldnes.

*La.* What do you tremble, are you all affraid?  
Alas, I blame you not for you are mortall,  
And mortall eyes cannot endure the Diuell.

Auant thou fearefull miniſter of hell,  
Thou hadſt but power ouer his mortall body,  
His ſoule thou canſt not haue therefore be gone,

*Glo.* Sweet Saint for charity, bee not ſo curſt.

*La.* Foule diuell, for Gods ſake hence and trouble vs not,  
For thou haſt made the happy earth thy hell:  
Fil'd it with curſing cries and deepe exclaymes,  
If thou delight to vew thy hanious deeds,  
Behold this patterne of thy butcheries.

Oh Gentlemen ſee, ſee dead *Henries* wounds,  
Open their congeal'd mouths and bleed afreſh,  
Bluſh, bluſh, thou lump of foule deformity,  
For tis thy preſence that exhals this blood,  
From cold and emptie ſynes where no blood dwels.

Thy deed inhumane and vnnaturall,  
Prouokes this deluge moſt vnnaturall,  
Oh Ood, which this blood mad'ſt, reuenge his death:  
Oh earth which this blood drinck'ſt, reuenge his death:  
Either heauen with lightning ſtrike the murderer dead,

*Of Richard the Third.*

Or earth gape open wide, and eate him quicke,  
As thou didſt ſwallow vp this good Kings blood,  
Which his Hell-gouern'd arme hath butchered.

*Glo.* Lady, you know no rule of charity,  
Which render good for bad, bleſſings for curſes,

*La.* Villanne, thou knowſt no law of God, nor man:  
No beaſt ſo fierce, but knowes ſome touch of pittie,

*Glo.* But I know none, and therefore am no beaſt.

*La.* O wonderfull when deuils tell the truth,

*Glo.* More wonderfull when Angels are ſo angry,  
Vouchſafe deuine perfection of a woman,  
O theſe ſuppoſed euils to giue me leaue,  
By circumſtance but to acquit my ſelfe.

*La.* vouchſafe deſuſed infection of a man,  
For theſe knowne euils but to giue me leaue,  
By circumſtance to curſe thy curſed ſelfe.

*Glo.* Eairer then tongue can name thee, let me haue  
Some patient leaſure to excuſe my ſelfe.

*La.* Fouler then heart can thinke thee, thou canſt make  
No excuſe currant, but to hang thy ſelfe.

*Glo.* By ſuch diſpaire I ſhould accuſe my ſelfe.

*La.* And by diſpaire ſhouldſt thou ſtand excuſde,  
For doing worthy vengeance on thy ſelfe,  
Which didſt, vnworthy ſlaughter vpon others.

*Glo.* Say that I ſlew them not.

*La.* Why then they are not dead:  
But dead they are and diueliſh ſlaue by thee.

*Glo.* I did not kill your husband.

*La.* Why then he is alive.

*Glo.* Nay he is dead and ſlaine by *Edwards* hand.

*La.* In thy ſoule throat thou lieſt. *Queene Margret* ſaw  
Thy bloody ſaulchion ſmooching in his blood,  
The which thou once didſt bend againſt her breaſt,  
But that my brother beat aſſide the poynt.

*Glo.* I was prouoked by her ſlanderous tongue  
Which laid her guilt vpon my guiltleſſe ſhoulders.

*La.* Thou waſt prouoked by thy bloody minde,  
Which neuer dreaunt on ought: but butcheryes:

Didſt thou not kill this King? *Glo.* I grant yee.

B

*La.*



*The Tragedie*

*La.* Doeſt graunt me hedgehog, then God grant me too  
Thou maiest be damned for that wicked deede.

Oh he was gentle, milde, and vertuous.

*Glo.* The fitter for the King of Heauen that hath him,

*La.* He is in heauen, where thou shalt neuer come.

*Glo.* Let him thanke me that holpe to send him thither,  
For he was fitter for that place then earth.

*La.* And thou vnfit for any place but hell.

*Glo.* Yes one place else, if you will heare me name it.

*La.* Some Dungeon. *Glo.* Your bed-chamber.

*La.* Ill rest betide the chamber where thou liest.

*Glo.* So will it Maddam till I lie with you.

*La.* I hope so.

*Glo.* I know so, but gentle Lady *Anne*,  
To leaue this kind incounter of your wits,  
And fall somewhat into a slower methode:  
Is not the causer of the time-lesse deaths,  
Of these Plantagenets, *Henry* and *Edward*,  
As blamefull as the executioner?

*La.* Thou art the cause, and most accurst effect.

*Glo.* Your beauty was the cause of that effect.  
Your beauty which did haunt me in my sleepe,  
To vndertake the death of all the world,  
So I might rest that houre in your sweete bosome.

*La.* If I thought that, I tell thee homicide,  
These nailes should rend that beauty from their cheekes.

*Glo.* These eyes could neuer endure sweete beauties wrack,  
You should not blemish them if I stood by:  
As al the world is cleared by the Sunne,  
So I by that, it is my day, my life.

*La.* Blacke night overshad thy day, and death thy life.

*Glo.* Curse not thy selfe faire creature, thou art both.

*La.* I would I were to be reuenged on thee.

*Glo.* It is a quarrell most vnnaturall,  
To be reuenged on him that loueth you.

*La.* It is a quarrell iust and reasonable,  
To be reuenged on him that slew my Husband,

*Glo.* He that bereft thee Lady of thy husband.  
Did it to helpe thee to a better husband.

*of Richard the Third.*

*La.* His better doth not breake vpon the earth.

*Glo.* Go too, he liues that loues you better then he could.

*La.* Name him

*Glo.* Plantagenet.

*La.* Why what was hee?

*Glo.* The selfe same name but one of better nature,

*La.* Where is hee?

*Glo.* Heere.

*Shee spitteth at him.*

Why doest spit at me?

*La.* Would it were mortall poyson for thy sake.

*Glo.* Neuer came poyson from so sweete a place.

*La.* Neuer hung poyson on a fowler toade,

Out of my sight thou doest infect my eyes.

*Glo.* thine eyes sweete Lady haue infected mine,

*La.* Would they were Basiliskes to strike thee dead.

*Glo.* I would they were, that I might die at once,

For now they kill me with a liuing death:

Those eyes of thine, from mine haue drawne salt teares,

Shamed their aspect with store of childish drops,

I neuer sued to friends nor enemy,

My tongue could neuer learne sweete smoothing words.

But now thy beauty is propofde my fee;

My proud heart sues, and prompts my tongue to speake,

Teach not my lips such scorne, for they were made

For kissing Lady not for such contempt.

If thy reuengefull heart cannot for giue,

Loe here I lend thee this sharpe poynted sword;

Which if you please to hide in this true bosome,

And let the soule forth that a dorneth thee:

Ilay it naked to thy deadly stroake:

And humbly beg the death vpon my knee.

Nay, doe not pawse, twas I that kild your husband,

But twas thy beauty that prouoked me:

Nay now dispatch, twas I that kild king Henry,

But twas thy heavenly face that set me on:

Take vp the sword againe, or take vp me. *Here she lets fall the sword.*

*La.* Arise dissembler, though I wish thy death,

I will not be the executioner.

*Glo.* Then bid me kill my selfe, and I will doe it.

*La.* I haue alreadie.

B 2

*Glo.*



*The Tragicdie*

*Glo.* Tush, that was in the rage:  
Speake it againe, and euen with the word,  
That hand which for thy Loue did kill thy Loue,  
Shall for thy loue, kill a farre truer loue,  
To both their deaths thou shalt be necessary.

*La.* I would know thy heart.

*Glo.* Tis figured in my tongue.

*La.* I feare me both are false.

*Glo.* Then neuer man was true.

*La.* Well, well, put vp your sword.

*Glo.* Say then my peace is made.

*La.* That shall you know hereafter.

*Glo.* But I shall liue in hope.

*La.* All men I hope liue so.

*Glo.* Vouchsafe to weare this ring.

*La.* To take is not to giue.

*Glo.* Looke how this ring incompasseth thy finger,  
Euen so thy brest incloseth my poore heart.  
Were both of them for both of them are thine.  
And if thy poore suppliant may  
But beg one fauour at thy gracious hand,  
Thou dost confirme his happinesse forever.

*La.* What is it?

*Glo.* That it would please thee leaue these sad desires  
To him that hath more cause to be a mourner,  
A presently repaire to Crosbie place,  
Where, after I haue solemnly enterred  
At Chertie Monastery this noble King,  
And wet his graue with my repentant teares,  
I will with all expedient dutie see you:  
For diuers vnknowne reasons, I beseech you  
Grant me this boone.

*La.* with all my heart, and much it ioyes me too,  
To see you are become so penitent:

*Tressill* and *Bartly*, goe a long with me.

*Glo.* Bid me farewell.

*La.* Tis more then you deserue:  
But since you teach me how to flatter you,  
Imagine I haue sayd farewell alreadie

*Exit.*

*Glo.*

*of Richard the Third.*

*Glo.* Sirs, take vp the course,

*Ser.* Towards Chertie noble Lord?

*Glo.* No to white Fryers there attend my comming:  
Was euer woman in this humour wooed? *Exunt Manes Glo.*  
Was euer woman in this humour wonne?  
Ile haue her, but I will not keepe her long.  
What I haue kild her husband and her father,  
To take her in her hearts extreamest heate:  
With curses in her mouth teares in her eyes:  
The bleeding witnesse of her hatred by:  
Hauing God, her conscience, and these barres against me;  
And I nothing to backe my sute withall  
But the plaine Diuel and dissembling lookes,  
And yet to win her all the world is nothing? Hah?  
Hath shee forgot already that braue Prince  
Edward, her Lord, Whom I some three moneths since  
Stabd in my angry mood at *Tewksbury*?  
A sweeter and louelier gentleman,  
Framd in the prodigality of nature:  
Yong, valiant, wise, and no doubt right royall,  
The spacious world cannot againe affoord.  
And will she yet debace her eyes on me,  
That croppt the golden prime of this sweet Prince,  
And made her widdow to a woefull bed?  
On me, whose all not equals Edwards moiety,  
On me that halt, and am vnshapen thus?  
My Dukedome to be a beggerly denier,  
I doe mistake my person all this while.  
Vpon my life shee finds although I cannot  
My selfe, to be a marualous proper man,  
Ile be at charges for a Looking-glasse,  
And enertaine some score or two of tailors  
To studie fashions to adorne my body,  
Since I am crept in fauour with my selfe,  
I will maintaine it with a little cost.  
But first ile turne yon fellow in his graue,  
And then returne lamenting to my loue.  
Shine out faire sunne, till I haue bought a glasse,  
That I may see my shadow as I passe.

*Exit.*

*Enter*

B 3



The Tragedy

Enter *Queene*, Lord *Rivers* and *Gray*,

*Ri.* Haue patience Madam, thers no doubt his maiesty,  
Will soone recouer his accustomed health.

*Gray.* In that you brooke it ill, it makes him worke,  
Therefore for Gods sake entertaine good comfort,  
and cheare his grace with quicke and merry words,

*Qu.* If he were dead what should beride of me?

*Ri.* No other harme but losse of such a Lord.

*Qu.* The losse of such a Lord includes all harme.

*Gray.* The heauens haue blest you with a goodly sonne,  
To be your comforter when he is gone.

*Qu.* Oh he is yong, and his minority  
Is put in the trust of *Rich.* Gloucester,  
A man that loues not me, nor none of you.

*Ri.* It is concluded he shall be Protector?

*Qu.* It is determind, not concluded yet,  
But so it must be if the King miscarry, Enter *Buck.* *Darby.*

*Gr.* Here comes the Lords of *Buckingham* and *Darby.*

*Buc.* Good time of day vnto your royall grace.

*Dar.* God make your maiesty ioyfull as you haue bene.

*Qu.* The Countesse *Richmond* good my Lord of *Darby.*  
To your good prayers will scarce say, amen:  
Yet *Darby*, not withstanding shees your wife,  
And loues not me, be you good Lord assured.  
I hate not you for her proud arrogancie.

*Dar.* I beseech you either not beleue  
The enuious slanders of her accusers,  
Or if she be accused in true report,  
Beare with her weakenesse, which I thinke proceeds  
From wayward sicknesse, and no grounded malice.

*Ri.* Saw you the King to day my Lord *Darby*?

*Dar.* But now the Duke of *Buckingham* and I,  
Came from visiting his Maiestie.

*Qu.* What likelihood of his amendment Lords?

*Buc.* Madam, good hope, his grace speakes chearfully.

*Qu.* God graunt him health, did you confer with him?

*Buc.* Madam we did, He desires to make attonement  
Betwixt the Duke of *Glocester* and your brothers,  
And betwixt them and my Lord *Chamberlaine*,

And

of Richard the Third.

And sent to warne them of his royall presence.

*Qu.* Would all were well, but that will neuer be,  
I feare our happinesse is at the highest. Enter *Glocester.*

*Glo.* They doe me wrong and I will not endure it:

Who are they that complains vnto the King?

That I forsooth am sterne loue them not:

By holy *Paul* they loue his grace but lightly

That fill his eares with such dissentious rumours:

Because I cannot flatter and speake faire,

Smile in mens faces smooth deceiue and cog

Ducke with French nods, and apish courtiesie,

I must be held a rankerous enemie.

Cannot a plaine man liue and thinke no harme,

But thus in simple truth must be abuse

By slikenesse insinuating Iackes?

*Ri.* To home in this presence speakes your grace.

*Glo.* To thee that hath no honesty nor grace.

When I haue iniured thee, when done thee wrong,

Or thee, or thee, or any of your faction?

A plague vpon you all. His royall person

(Whome God preserue better then you can wish)

Cannot be quiet scarce a breathing while,

But you must trouble him with lewd complainrs.

*Qu.* Brother of *Glocester*, you mistake the matter:

The King of his owne royall disposition,

And not prouokt by any suter else,

Ayming belike a your interiour hatred,

Which in your outward actions shewes it selfe,

Against my kindred, brother, and my selfe:

Makes him to send that whereby wee may gather

The ground of your ill will, and to remoue it.

*Glo.* I cannot tell, the world is growne so bad,

That wrens way prey where eagles dare not pearch,

Since euery lacke became a Gentleman

There's many a gentle person made a lacke.

*Qu.* Come, come we know your meaning brother *Gloster*,

You enuie mine aduancement and my friends,

God grant we neuer may haue neede of you.

*Glo.* Meane time, God grant that we haue neede of you,

Our



Our brother is imprisoned by your meanes,  
My selfe disgraced, and the Nobility  
Held in contempt, whilst many faire promotions  
Are dayly given to enoble those  
That scarce some two dayes since were worth a noble.

*Qu.* By him that raised me to this carefull height,  
From that contented hap which I enjoyd,  
I neuer did insult his Maiesty  
Against the Duke of Clarence, but haue beene  
An earnest aduocate to pleade for him.  
My lord, you doe me shamefull iniury,  
Falsely to draw me in, such vile suspect.

*Glo.* You may deny that you were not the cause,  
Of my Lord Hastings late imprisonment.

*Riv.* She may my Lord,

*Glo.* She may, *L. Rivers*, why who knowes not so?  
She may do more sit then denying that:  
She may helpe you to many preferments,  
And then deny her ayding hand therein,  
And lay those honours on your high deserts.  
What may she not? she may, yea marry may she.

*Riv.* What marry may she?

*Glo.* What marry may she? marry with a King  
A batcheler, a handsome stripling too.  
I wis your Grandam had a worse match.

*Qu.* My L. of Gloucester, I haue to long borne  
Your blunt vpbraidings, and your bitter scoffes  
By heauen I will acquaint his Maiesty,  
With those grosse taunts I often haue endured.  
I had rather be a country seruant maid,  
Then a Queene with this condition,  
To be thus taunted, scorned, and baited at,  
Small ioy haue I in being *Englands* Queene.

*Q. Mar.* And lesned be that small, God I beseech thee,  
Thy honour, state, and seat is due to me.

*Glo.* What? threat you me with telling the King?  
Tell him and spare not looke what I sayd,  
I will auouch in presence of the King:  
Tis time to speake, when paines are quite forgot.

*Q. Mar.*

*Qu. Mar.* Out diuel, I remember them too well,  
Thou slewest my husband *Henry* in the Tower,  
And *Edward* my poore sonne at *Tewkesburie*.

*Glo.* Ere you were *Queene* yea or your husband King,  
I was a pack-horse in his great affaires,  
A weeder out of his proud aduersaries,  
A liberall rewarder of his friends:  
To royallize his blood I spilt mine owne.

*Qu. Mar.* Yea, and much better blood, then his or thine  
*Glo.* In all which time, you and your husband *Gray*,  
Were factious for the house of *Lankaster*:

And *Rivers*, so were you. Was not your husband  
In *Margrets* battaile at *Saint Albons* slaine:  
Let me put in your mind, if yours forget,  
What you haue beene ere now, and what you are:  
Withall, what I haue beene, and what I am.

*Qu. Mar.* A murderous villaine, and so still thou art.

*Glo.* Poore *Clarence* did forsake his Father *Warwicke*,  
Yea and forswore himselfe (which Iesu pardon)

*Qu. Mar.* Which God reuenge.

*Glo.* To fight on *Edwards* party for the crowne,  
And for his meede (poore Lord) hee is mewed vp:  
I would to God my heart were flint like *Edwards*,  
Or *Edwards* soft and pittypfull like mine,  
I am too childish foolish for this world.

*Qu. Mar.* Hie thee to hell for shame, and leaue the world,  
Thou Cacodæmon, there thy kingdome is.

*Ri.* My Lord of *Gloucester* in those busie dayes,  
Which here you vige to proue vs enemies,  
We follow then our Lord, our lawfull King,  
So should we now if you should be our King.

*Glo.* If I should be? I had rather be a pedlar,  
Farre be it from my heart the thought of it,

*Qu. Mar.* As little ioy (my Lord) as you suppose  
You should enjoy, were you this countries King.  
As little ioy may you suppose in me,  
That I enjoy, being the *Queene* thereof,  
A little ioy enioyes the *Queene* thereof,  
For I am she, and altogether ioyleffe:

C

I can



The Tragedie

I can no longer hold me patient.  
Heare me you wrangling pirates that fall out,  
I shaking out that which you haue pild from me:  
Which of you trembles not that looke on me?  
If not, that I being *Queene*, you bow like subiects,  
Yet that by you disposd, you quake like rebels:  
O gentile villaine, doe not turne away.

*Glo.* Foule wrinkled, witch, what makst thou in my sight?

*Qu. Ma.* But repetition of what thou hast mard,  
That will I make, before I let thee goe:  
A husband and a sonne thou owest vnto me,  
And thou akingdome, all of you alleagence:  
The sorrow that I haue by right is yours,  
And all the pleasure you vsurpe, is mine.

*Glo.* The curse my noble father layd one thee,  
When thou didst crowne his warlike browes with paper,  
And with thy scorne drewst riuers from his eyes,  
And then to drie them, gau'st the duke a clout  
Steept in the blood of pritty *Rutland*:  
His curses then from bitternesse of soule,  
Denounc'd against thee, are fallen vpon thee,  
And God, not we, hath plagde thy bloodie deed.

*Qu.* So iust is God to right the innocent,

*Hast.* O twas the foulest deed to slay that babe,  
And the most mercilesse that euer was heard of.

*Ri.* Tyrants themselues wept when it was reported,

*Dorf.* No man but prophesied reuenge for it.

*Buc Northumberland* then present, wept to see it.

*Qu. Ma.* What? were you snarling all before I came,  
Ready to catch each other by the throat,  
And turne you now your hatred now one me?  
Did *Yorke*s dread curse preuaile somuch with heauen,  
That *Henries* death my louely *Edwards* death,  
Their kingdomes lost my woefull banishment,  
Could all but answere for that peeuissh brat?  
Can curses pearce the clouds, and enter heauen;  
Why then giue way dull clouds to my quicke curses:  
If not by warre, by surfet die your King.  
As ours by murder to make him a King.

*Edward*

of Richard the Third.

*Edward* my sonne, which now is prince of *Wales*,  
For *Edward* my son, which was a Prince of *Wales*,  
Die in his youth by like vntimely violencees,  
Thy selfe a *Queene*, for me that was a *Queene*,  
Out liue thy glory, like my wretched selfe:  
Long maist thou liue to waile thy childrens losse,  
And see another, as I see thee now  
Deckt in thy glory, as thou art staid in mine:  
Long die thy happy dayes before thy death,  
And after many lengthened houres of griefe,  
Die neither mother, wife, nor *Englands* *Queene*,  
*Rivers* and *Dorset*, you were standers by,  
And so was thou Lord *Hastings*, when my soone  
Was stabd with bloody daggers, God I pray him,  
That none of you may liue your naturall age,  
But by some vnlookt accident cut off.

*Glo.* Haue done thy charme thou hatefull withered hag?

*Qu. Ma.* And leaue out thee? slay dog, for thou shalt heare  
If heauen haue any greuous plague in store, (me,  
Exceeding those that I can wish vpon thee:  
O let them keepe it till thy sinnes be ripe,  
And then hurle downe their indignation  
On thee the troubler of the poore worlds peace:  
The worme of conscience still begnaw thy soule,  
Thy friends suspect for traytors whilst thou liuest,  
And take deepe traytors for thy dearest friends,  
No sleepe close vp the deadly eyes of thine,  
Vnlesse it be whilst some tormenting dreame  
Affrights thee, with a hell of vgly diuels,  
Thou eluish markt, abortiue rooting hog,  
Thou that wast seald in thy natiuitie  
The slaue of nature, and the sonne of hell,  
Thou slaunder of thy mothers heavy womb,  
Thou loathed issue of thy fathers loynes,  
Thou rag of honour, thou detested, &c.

*Glo. Margret.*

*Qu. Ma. Richard.*

*Glo. Ha.*

*Qu. Ma.* I call the not.

*Glo.* Then I cry thee mercy: for I had thought

C 2

Thou



*The Tragicke*

Thou hast cald me all these bitter names.

*Qu. Mar.* Why so I did, but looke for no reply:  
O let me make the period to my curse.

*Glo.* Tis done by me and ends by *Margret*.  
Thus haue you breathed your curse against your selfe.

*Qu. Ma.* Poore painted Queene, vaine flourish of my fortune:  
Why strewst thou iugar one that botled spider,

Whose deadly web insnareth thee about?  
Foole foole thou wherest a knife to kill thy selfe,  
The time will come when thou shalt wish for me,  
To helpe thee curse that poisoned bunch backt toade,

*Hast.* False bolting woman, end thy frantick curse,  
Least to thy harme thou moue our patience.

*Qu. M.* Foule shame vpon you, you haue all mou'd mine.

*Ri.* Were you well seru'd you would be taught your duty.

*Qu. Ma.* To serue me well, you should doe me duty,  
Teach mee to bee your Queene, and you my subiects:  
Obserue me well and teach your selues that dutie.

*Dors.* Dispute not with her she is lunatique.

*Qu. Ma.* Peace master Marquesse, you are malapert,  
Your fire-new stampe of honour is scarce currant:

O that your young nobility could iudge,  
What 'twere to loose it and be miserable?  
They that stand high, haue many blasts to shake them,  
And if they fall they dash them to peeces.

*Glo.* Good counsell marry, learne it, learne it Marques,

*Dors.* It toucheth you (my Lord) as much as me.

*Glo.* Yea, and much more, but I was borne so high,  
Our aery buildeth in the Cædars top,  
And dallies with the winde, and scornes the sunne.

*Qu. Ma.* And turues the Sunne to shade, alas, alas,  
Witness my sunne now in the shade of death,  
Whose bright outshining beames, thy cloudy wrath,  
Hath in eternall darkenesse foulded vp:

Your aery buildeth in our aeries nest.

O God that seest it, doe not suffer it:

As it was won with blood, lost be it so.

*Buck.* Haue done for shame, if not for charity.

*Qu. M.* Vrge neither charity nor shame to me,

Vncharitably

*of Richard the Third.*

Vncharitably with me haue you dealt,  
And shamefully by you my hopes are butchered,  
My charity is outrage, life my shame,  
And in my shame shall liue my sorrowes rage.

*Buck.* Haue done.

*Q. Mar.* O princely *Buckingham*, I will kisse thy hand,  
In signe of league and amity with thee:  
Now faire befall thee and thy Princely house,  
Thy garments are not spotted with our blood,  
Nor thou within the compasse of my curse.

*Buck.* Nor none heere for curses neuer passe  
The lips of them that breath them in the aire.

*Qu. Mar.* Ile not beleue but they assend the skie,  
And there awake Gods gentle sleeping peace.

O *Buckingham* beware of yonder dog,  
Looke when he faunes he bites, and when he bites,  
His venome tooth will rankle thee to death,  
Haue not to doe with him, beware of him:  
Sinne, death, and hell haue set their markes on him.  
And all their ministers attend on him.

*Glo.* What doth she say my Lord of *Buckingham*?

*Buck.* Nothing that I respect my gracious Lord.

*Qu. Mar.* What doest thou scorne me for my gentle coun-  
And sooth the diuell that I warne thee from? (sell,

O but remember this another day,  
When he shall split thy very heart with sorrow,

And say poore *Margret* was a Prophetesse:

Liue each of you, the subiect of his hate,

And he to you, and all of you to Gods.

*Exit.*

*Hast.* My haire doth stand an end to heere her curses.

*Ri.* And so doth mine, I wonder shees at liberty?

*Glo.* I cannot blame her by Gods holy mother,  
She hath had too much wrong, and I repent  
My part thereof that I haue done.

*Hast.* I neuer did her any to my knowledge.

*Glo.* But you haue all the vantage of this wrong,

I was too hot to doe some body good,

That is to cold in thinking one it now:

Marry as for *Clarence*, hee is well repayd,

C 3

Hee



*The Tragedy*

He is frank vp to fating for his paines,  
God pardon them that are the cause of it,

*Rm.* A vertuous and Christian like conclusion,  
To pray for them that haue done seath to vs.

*Glo.* So doe I euer being well aduised,  
For had I curst, now I had curst my selfe.

*Cats.* Maddam his Maiesty doth call for you :  
And for your noble grace and you my Lord.

*Qu.* *Catsby* we come, Lords will you goe with vs.

*R.* Maddam we will attend your grace. *Exunt Ma. Glo.*

*Glo.* I doe thee wrong, and first began to baul,  
The seeret mischiefe that I set abroach,  
I lay vnto the greeuous charge of others :

*Clarence*, whom I indeede haue laid in darkenesse :  
I doe beweepe to many simple gulls :

Namely to *Hastings*, *Darby* *Buckingham*,  
And say it is the Queene, and her allies.

That stirre the K. against the Duke my brother,  
Now they beleue me, and withall wet me

To bee reuenged one *Rivers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*.

But then sigh, and with a peece of scriptrue,  
Tell them that God bids vs to doe good for euill :

And thus I cloath my naked villany  
With old od ends, stolen out of holy writ,  
And seeme a S. when most I play the diuell.

But soft heere comes my executioners, *Enter executioners.*

How now, my hardly stout resolved mates,  
Are yea not going to dispatch this deed ?

*Exe.* We are my Lord and come to haue the warrant,  
That we may be admitted where he is.

*Glo.* It was well thought vpon, I haue it heere about me,  
When you haue done repaire to *Crosby* place :

But sire, be suddaine in the execution :  
Withall, obdurate : doe not heere him pleade,  
For *Clarens* is well spoken, and perhaps  
May moue your hearts to pity if you marke him.

*Exo.* Tush, feare not, my Lord we will not stant to prate,  
Talkers are no good doers be assured :  
We come to vse our hands and not our tongues.

*of Richard the Third.*

*Glo.* Your eyes drop millstones, when fooles eies drop teares.  
I like you Lads, about your businesse. *Exunt*

*Enter Clarence Brokenbury.*

*Bro.* Why lookes your Grace so heauely to day ?

*Cl.* O I haue past a miserable night,  
So full of vgly sights, of gastly dreames :  
That as I am a Christian faithfull man,  
I would not spend another such a night,  
Though t were to by a world of happy dayes,  
So full of dismall terrour was the time.

*Bro.* What was your dreame ? I long to heare you tell it.

*Cl.* Me thought I was imbarke for burgundy,  
And in my company my brother *Glocester*,  
Who from my cabben tempted me to walke  
Vpon the hatches there he lookes toward *England*,  
And cited up a thousand fearefull times,  
During the warres of *Yorke* and *Lancaster*,  
That had befallen vs : as we past along,  
Vpon the giddy footing of the Hatches,  
Me thought that *Glocester* stumbled and in stumbling  
Strooke me (that thought to stay him) ouer boord  
Into the tumbling billowes of the maine :  
Lord, Lord, me thought what paine it was to drowne,  
What dredfull noyse of water in mine eares,  
What a sight of death within mine eyes :  
Me thought I saw a thousand fearefull wrackes,  
Ten thousand men that fishes gaawed vpon,  
Wedges of gold, greate Anchors, heapes of pearle,  
Inestimable stones, vnvalued iewels,  
Some lay in dead mens sculs, and in those holes  
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept  
As if it twere in scorne of eyes, reflecting gems,  
Which wade the slimie bottome of the deepe,  
And mokit the dead bones that lay scatered by.

*Brok.* Had you such leasure in the time of death,  
To gaze vpon the secrets of the deepe ?

*Cl.* Me thought I had : for still the enuious flood  
Kept in my soule, and would not let it forth,  
To keepe the empty, vast, and wandring ayre,

*But*



*The Tragedie*

But smothered it within my panting bulke,  
Which almost burst to belch it in the sea.

*Brok.* A wakt you not with this sore agonie?

*Clar.* O no, my dreame was lengthned after life,  
O then began the tempest of my soule,  
Who past (me though) the melancoly flood,  
With that grim ferriman which Poets write of,  
Vnto the Kingdome of perpetuall night:

The first that there did greete my stranger soule,  
Was my great Father in law, renowned *Warwicke*,  
Who cried aloud, what scourge for periury  
Can this darke monarchie aford false *Clarence*?

And so he vanisht: Then came wandring by,  
A shadow like an Angell, in bright haire,  
Dadled in blood, and he squeakt out a loud,  
*Clarence* is come, false, fleeting, periurd *Clarence*?  
That stabd me in the field at *Tenxbury*:

Seaze one him furies, take him to your torments,  
With that me thought a legion of foule feinds  
Enuironed me about, and howled in mine cares,  
Such bidious cries, that with the very noise,  
I trembling wakt, and for a season after,  
Could not beleene but that I was in hell,  
Such terrible impressiō made the dreame.

*Brok.* No maruaile my Lord though it affrighted you,  
I promise you I am afraid to heare you tell it.

*Clar.* O *Brokenbury*, I haue done those things,  
Which now beare euidence against my soule,  
For *Edwards* sake and see how he requites me:

I pray thee gentile keeper stay by me,  
My soule is heauy aud I faine would sleepe.

*Brok.* I will (my Lord) God giue your grace good rest,  
Sorrow breakes seasons, and reposing howres  
Makes the night morning, and the noonetide night.

Princes haue but their title for their glories,  
An outward honour for an inward toyle:

And for vnfelt imaginations,  
They often feele a world of restless cares:  
So that betwixt your titles, and low names,

There's

*of Richard the Third.*

There's nothing differs but the outward same.

*The murderers enter.*

In Gods name what are you, and how came you hither?

*Exc.* I would speake with *Clarence*, and I came hither on  
*Bro.* Yea, are ye so brieft? my legs,

2. *Exc.* O sir, it is better to be brieft then tedious,  
Shew him your Commission, talke no more. *He readeth it.*

*Bro.* I am in this commanded to deliuer  
the noble Duke of *Clarence* to your hands,  
I will not reason what is meant thereby  
Because I will be guiltlesse of the meaning:

Heere are the keyes, there sits the Duke a sleepe.  
Ile to his maiesty and certifie his Grace,  
That thus I haue resignd my place to you,

*Exc.* Do so it is apoynt of wisdom.

2. What shall we stab him as he sleeps?

1. Noe then he will say twas done cowardly  
When he wakes.

2. When he wakes,  
Why foole he shall neuer wake till the Iudgement day.

1. Why then he will say we stabd him sleeping.

2. The vrging of that word Iudgement, hath bred  
A kinde of remorse in me.

1. What art afraid?

2. Not to kill him hauing a warrant for it, but to be damnd  
For killing him, from which no warrant can defend vs.

1. Backe to the Duke of *Glocester*, tell him so.

2. I pray thee stay a while, I hope my holy humour will  
Change, twas wont to hold me but while one could tell xx.

1. How doest thou feele thy selfenow? (me

2. Faith some certaine dregs of conscience are yet within

1. Remember our reward when the deede is done,

2. Zounds he dies, I had forgot the reward.

1. Where is thy conscience now?

2. In the Duke of *Glocester* purse.

1. So when he opens his purse to giue vs our reward,  
Thy conscience flies out.

2. Let it goe ther's few or none will entertaine it.

1. How if it come to thee againe?

D

2. Ile



*The Tragedie*

2. He not meddle with it, it is a dangerous thing;  
It makes a man a coward. A man cannot steale,  
But it accuseth him, he cannot steale but it checks him;  
He cannot lie with his neighbours wife but it detects,  
Him, it is a blushing shamfull spirit that mutinies  
In a mans bosome; it fills one full of obstacles,  
It made me once restore a peece of gold that I found.  
It beggers any man that keepes it: it is turnd out of all  
Townes and Citties for a dangerous thing, and euery  
Man that meanes to liue well, and endeauours to trust  
To himselfe, and liue without it.

1. Zounds, it is euen now at my elbow, perswading me  
Not to kill the Duke.

2. Take the diuill in thy minde, and beleue him not,  
He would insinuate with thee to make thee sigh.

1. Tut I am strong in fraud he cannot preuaile with me,  
I warrant thee.

2. Stood like a tall fellow that respects his reputation,  
Come shall we to this geare?

1. Take him ouer the costard with the hilt of my sword,  
And then we will chop him in the Malmsey, but in the next

2. Oh excelent deuice, make a soppe of him. roome:

1. Harke, he stirs, shall I strike?

2. No, first lets reason with him.

*Clas. awaketh.*

*Clas.* Where art thou keeper, giue mee a cup of wine.

1. You shall haue wine enough, my Lord anone.

*Clas.* in Gods name what art thou:

2. A man, as you are.

*Clas.* But not as I am, royall.

1. Nor you as wee are loyall.

*Clas.* Thy voyce is thunder, but thy lookes are humble.

2. My voyce is now the Kings, my lookes mine owne.

*Clas.* How darkely and how deadly dost thou speake?

Tell mee, who are you? wherefore came you hither?

*Am.* To, to, to.

*Clas.* To murder me?

*Am. I.*

*Clas.* You scarce haue the heart to tell mee so,  
And therefore cannot haue the heart to doe it,  
Wherein my friends haue I offended you?

1. Offended

*of Richard the Third.*

1. Offended vs you haue not, but the King.

*Clas.* I shall be reconciled to him againe.

2. Neuer my Lo. therefore prepare to die.

*Clas.* Are you cald forth from out a world of men  
To slay the innocent? what is my offence?

Where are the euidence to accuse me?

What lawfull quest hath giuen their verdict vp

Vnto the frowning Iudge, or who pronounc'd

The bitter sentence of poore Clarence death,

Before I be conuicted by course of law?

To threaten me with death is most vnlawfull:

I charge you as you hope to haue redemption,

By Christs deare blood shed for our greuous sinnes,

That you depart and lay no hand one mee,

The deede you vndertake is damnable,

1. What wee will doe, we doe vpon command.

2. And he that hath commanded vs is the King.

*Clas.* Erroneous vassaile, the great King of Kings,

Haue in his Table of his Law commanded,

Thar thou shalt doe no murder, and wilt thou then

Spurne at his edict, and fullfill a mans?

Take heede, for he holdes vengeance in his hands,

To hurle vpon their heads that breake his law.

2. And that same vengeance doth he throw on thee,

For false forswearing and for murther too?

Thou didst receiue the holy Sacrament,

To fight the quarrel of the house of Lancaster.

1. And like a traitor to the name of God,

didst breake that vow, and with thy trecherous blade

Vnript the bowels of thy Soneraignes sonne,

2. Whome thou wert sworne to cherish and defend.

1. How canst thou vige Gods dreadfull Law to vs,

When thou hast brooke it in so deere degree?

*Clas.* Alas, for whose sake did I that ill deed?

For Edward, for my brother, for his sake:

Why firs he sends you not to murder me for this,

For in this sin he is as deepe as I,

If God will be reuenged for this deede,

Take not the quarrell from his powerfull arme,

D 2

Hes



*The Tragedie*

He needs no indirect nor lawfull course,  
To cut off those that haue offended him.

1. Who made thee then a bloody minister,  
When gallant spring, braue *Plantagenet*,  
The Princely Nouice was strooke dead by thee.

*Cla.* My brothers loue, the Deuill, and my rage,  
1. Thy brothers loue, the Deuill, and thy fault,  
Haue brought vs hither now to murder thee.

*Cla.* Oh, if you loue my brother hate not me,  
I am his brother and I loue him well:  
If you be hirde for neede goe backe againe,  
And I will send you to my brother *Glocester*,  
Who will reward you better for my life,  
Then *Edward* will for tydings of my death.

2. You are deceiued your brother *Glocester* hates you.  
*Cla.* Oh no, he loues mee and he holds me deare,  
Go you to him from me.

*Am.* I so we will.

*Cla.* Tell him, when that our Princely father *Yorke*,  
Blest his three sonnes with his victorious arme:  
And chargd vs from his soule to loue each other,  
He little thought of this diuided friendship.

Bid *Glocester* thinke on this and hee will weepe,

*Am.* I milstones, as he lessoned vs to weepe,  
*Cla.* O, doe not slander him for he is kind.

1. Right as snow in harvest, thou deceiwest thy selfe,  
Tis hee that sent vs hither now to murder thee.

*Cla.* It cannot be: for when I parted with him  
He hugd me in his armes, and swore with sobs  
That he would labour my deliuery.

2. Why so he doth, now he deliuers thee  
From this worlds thrauldome: to the ioyes of heauen,  
1. make peace with God, for you must die my Lord.

*Cla.* Hast thou that holy feeling in thy soule,  
To counsell mee to make my peace with God,  
And art thou yet to thy owne soule so blind,  
That thou wilt war with God, for mnrdring me?  
Ah sirs consider he that set you on  
To doe this deede, will hate you for this deede,

2. What

*of Richard the Third.*

2. What shall we doe?

*Cla.* Relent, and saue your soules.

1. Relent, tis cowardly, and womanish.

*Cla.* Not to relent, is beastly, sauage, and diuclish.

My friends I spie some pittie in yous lookes;

Oh if thy eye be not a flatterer,

Come thou one my side and intreete for me:

A begging Prince what beggar pitties not?

1. I thus, and thus: if this will not serue, *He stabs him.*

Ile chop thee in the maine: sey But in the next roome.

2. A bloody deed and desperately performd,

How faine would I like *Pilate* wash my hand,

Of this most grieuous guilty murder done.

1. Why doest thou not helpe me?

By heauen the Duke shall know how slacke thou art,

2. I would he knew that I had saued his brother,

Take thou the fee and tell him what I say;

For I repent me that the Duke is slaine.

*Exit.*

1. So do not I, goe coward as thou art.

Now must I hide his body in some hole,

Vntill the Duke take order for his buriall:

And when I haue my meed I must away,

For this will out, and here I must not stay,

*Exeunt.*

*Enter King, Queene, Hastings, Rivers, etc.*

*King.* So now I haue done a good dayes worke,

Your Peares continue the vnited league,

I euery day expect an Embassage

From my Redeemer, to redeeme me hence:

And now in peace my soule shall part to heauen,

Since I haue set my friends at peace on earth:

*Rivers* and *Hasting*, take each others hand,

Dissemble not your hatred, swear your loue.

*Ri.* By heauen my heart is purged from grudging hate,

And with my hand I seale my true hearts loue.

*Hast.* So thriue I as I sweare the like.

*King.* Take heede you dally not before your King,

Least he that is the supreame King of Kings,

Confound your hidden falshood, and award

Either of you to bee the others end.

D 3

Hast



*The Tragedie*

*Hast.* So prosper I, as I sweare perfect loue.

*Ri.* And I as I loue *Hastings* with my heart.

*Kim.* Madam, your life is not exempt in this,  
Nor your sonne *Dorset*, *Buckingham*, nor you,  
You haue bene factious one against the other:

Wife, loue Lord *Hastings*, let him kisse your hand,  
And what you doe, do it vniainedly.

*Qu.* Heere *Hastings*, I will neuer more remember  
Our former hatred, to thriue I and mine.

*Dor.* Thus enterchange of loue, I here protest,  
Vpon my part shall be vniolable.

*Ha.* And so I sweare my Lord.

*Kim.* Now princely *Buckingham* scale vp this league,  
With thy embracement to my wiues' allies,  
And make me hapy in his vinity.

*Buc.* When euer *Buckingham* doth turne his hate  
On you, or yours, but with all dutious loue  
Doth cherish you and yours, God punish mee  
With hate, in those where I expect most loue,  
When I haue most neede to imploy a friend.

And most assured that he is a friend,  
Deepe, hollow, trecherous, and full of guile  
Be he vnto me: This doe I begge of God,  
When I am cold in zeale to you or yours.

*Kim.* A pleasing cordiall princely *Buckingham*,  
Is this thy vow vnto my sickly heart:  
There wanteth now our brother *Glocester* here,  
to make the perfect period of this peace.

*Enter Glocester.*

*Buc.* And in good time heere comes the noble Duke,

*Glo.* Good morrow to my soueraigne King and Queene,  
And princely peares, a happy time of day.

*Kim.* Happy indeede as wee haue spent the day,  
Brother wee haue done deeds of charity:  
Made peace of enmity, faire loue of hate,  
Betweene these swelling wrong inscensed peeres.

*Glo.* A blessed labour most soueraigne liege,  
Amongst this princely heape, if any here  
By false intelgence, or wrong surmise,

Hold

*of Richard the Third.*

Hold me a foe, if I vnwittingly or in my rage,  
Haue thought committed that is hardly borne  
By any in this presence, I desire

To reconcile me to his friendly peace,  
Tis death to mee to be at enmity.

I hate it and desire all good mens loue.

First Maddam I intreat peace of you,  
Which I purchase with my dutious seruice.

Of you my noble cousen *Buckingham*,

If euer any grudge were lod'gd betweene vs,

Of you my Lord *Rivers*, and Lord *Gray* of you,

That a' without desert haue found on me,

Dukes, Earles, Lords, Gentlemen, indeed of all:

I do not know that Englishman aliue,

With whome my soule is any iotte at oddes,

More then the infant that is borne to night:

I thanke my God for my humility,

*Qu.* A holy day shall this be kept heereafter,

I would to God all strife were well compounded,

My soueraigne leige I do beseech your maiesty

To take our brother *Clarence*, to your grace.

*Glo.* Why Maddam, haue I offered loue for this,

To be thus scornd in this royall presence?

Who knowes not that the noble Duke is dead?

You doe him iniury to scorne his coarfe. (he is?)

*Ri.* Who knowes not he is dead, who knowes

*Qu.* All seeing heauen, what a world is this?

*Buc.* Looke I so pale Lord *Dorset* as the rest?

*Dor.* I my good Lord and noone in this presence

But his red colour hath forsooke his cheekes.

*Kim.* Is *Clarence* dead? the order was reuerst.

*Glo.* But He poore soule by our first order did,

And that a winged Mercury did beare,

Some tardy crible bore the coutermaund,

That came too lagge to see him buried:

God graunt that some lesse noble and lesse loyall,

Neerer in bloody thoughts, but not in blood:

Deserue not worse then wretched *Clarence* did,

And yet goe currant from suspition.

*Enter Darby.*

*Dar,*



*Dar.* A boone (my foueraigne) for my seruice done,  
*Kin.* I pray thee peace my soule is full of sorow.  
*Dar.* I will not rise vnlesse your highnesse graunt,  
*Kin.* Then speake at once what it is thou demandest?  
*Dar.* The forfeit (foueraigne) of my seruants life,  
 Who flew to day a ryotous gentleman  
 Lately attending one the Duke of *Norffolke*.  
*Kin.* Haue I a Tongue to doome my brothers death,  
 And shall the same giue pardone to a slaue;  
 My brother flew no man his fault was thought,  
 And yet his punishment was cruell death.  
 Who sued to me for him? who in my rage,  
 Kneeled at my feete and bad me be aduisde?  
 Who spake of brother-hood who of loue?  
 Who told me how the poore soule did forsake  
 The mighty *Warwicke*, and did fight for me?  
 Who told me in the field at *Tewsbury*,  
 When *Oxford* had me downe he rescued me,  
 And sayd deare brother liue and be a King?  
 Who told me when we both lay in the field,  
 Frozen almost to death, how he lappe me,  
 Euen in his owne armes; and gaue him selfe  
 All thin and naked to the numb could night?  
 All this from my remembrance brutish wrath  
 Sinfully pluckt and nota man of you  
 Had somuch grace to put it in my minde.  
 But when your carters or your wayting vassalles  
 Haue done adrunken slaughter, and defac'd  
 The precious Image of our deare redeemer,  
 You straight are one your knees for pardon, pardon,  
 And I vniustly too, must graunt it you.  
 But for my brother not a man would speake,  
 Nor I (vngratious) speake vnto my selfe,  
 For him poore soule: the proudest one you all  
 Haue beene beholding to him in his life:  
 Yet none of you would once pleade for his life:  
 Oh God I feare thy Iustice will take holde  
 On me, and you, and mine, and yours for this. *(Exit.)*  
 Come *Hastings* helpe mee to my closet, oh poore *Clarence*  
*Glo.*

*Glo.* This is the fruit of rawnesse: marke you not  
 How that the guiltie kindred of the *Queene*,  
 Lookt pale when they did heare of *Clarence* death:  
 Oh, they did vrge it still vnto the King,  
 God will reuenge it. But come lets in  
 To comfort *Edward* with our company. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Dutches of Yorke, with Clarence Children.*

*Boy.* Tell me good Granam, is our Father dead?

*Dut.* No Boy. *(breast?)*

*Boy.* Why doe you wring your hands and beat your  
 And crie, Oh *Clarence* my vnhappy sonne?

*Girl.* Why doe you looke on vs and shake your head?  
 And call vs wretched, Orphanes, castauias,  
 If that our noble father be aliue?

*Dut.* My pritty Cosens you mistake me much,  
 I dolament the sicknesse of the King:  
 As loth to loose him now your fathers dead:  
 It were lost labour to weepe for one that's lost.

*Boy.* Then Granam you conclude that he is dead,  
 The King my vnkle is too blame for this:  
 God will reuenge it, whom I will importune  
 With dayly prayers all to that effect.

*Dut.* Peace children peace, the King doth loue you well,  
 Incapable and shallow innocents,  
 You cannot gesse who caused your fathers death.

*Boy.* Granam, we can: for my good Vnkle *Glocester*  
 Told me, the King prouoked by the *Queene*,  
 Deuis'd impeachments to imprison him:  
 And when he told me so he wept,  
 And hugd me in his armes, and kindly kist my cheekes,  
 And bad me relie on him as one my father,  
 And he would loue me dearely as his childe.

*Dut.* Oh that deceite should steale such gentle shapes,  
 And with a vertuous vizard hide foule guile,  
 He is my sonne, yea and therein my shame:  
 Yet from my dugs he drew not this deceite.

*Boy.* Thinke you my Vnkle did dissemble, Granam?

*Dut.* I Boy.

*Boy.* I cannot thinke it, harke, what noyse is this?

E

*Enter*



*The Tragedie*

*Enter the Queene.*

*Qu.* Who shall hinder me to waile and weepe,  
To chide my fortune, and torment my selfe?  
He ioyne with blacke despaire against my selfe,  
And to my selfe become an enemy.

*Dut.* What meanes this sceane of rude impatience?

*Qu.* To make an act of tragicke violence,  
*Edward*, my Lord, your sonne our King is dead.  
Why grow the branches, now the roore is witherd  
Why wither not the leaues, the sap being gone?  
If you will liue, lament: if die be brieft:

That our swift winged soules may catch the Kings,  
Or like obedient subiects, follow him

To his new kingdome of perpetuall rest.

*Dut.* Ah so much interest haue I in thy sorrow,

As I had title in my noble husband:

I haue bewept a worthy husbands death,

And liu'd by looking on his image:

But now two mirrours of his Princely semblance,

Are crackt in peeces by malignant death,

And I for comfort haue but one false glasse,

Which grieues me when I see my shame in him,

Thou art a widdow yet thou art a mother,

And hast the comfort of thy children left thee:

But death hath snatcht my children from mine armes,

And pluckt two crutches from my feeble limmes,

*Edward*, and *Clarence*, O what cause haue I

Then, being but moiety of my selfe,

To ouergo thy plaints and drowne thy cries?

*Boy.* Good aunt, you wept not for my fathers death,

How can we aide you with our kindreds teares?

*Gerl.* Our fatherlesse distresse was left vnmoand,

Your widdowes dolours likewise be vnwept,

*Qu.* Giue me no helpe in lamentation,

I am not barren to bring forth laments,

All springs reduce their currents to mine eyes,

That I being gouern'd by the watry moone,

May send forth plenteous teares to drowne the world:

Oh my husband for my heire Lord *Edward*.

*Ambo.*

*Of Richard the Third.*

*Ambo.* Oh for our father for our deare Lord *Clarence*.

*Dut.* Alas for both, both mine *Edward* and *Clarence*,

*Qu.* What stay had I but *Edward*, and is he gone?

*Ambo.* What stay had we but *Clarence*, and is he gone?

*Dut.* What stay had I but they and they are gone?

*Qu.* Was euer widow, had so deare a losse:

*Ambo.* Was euer Orphanes had so deere a losse?

*Dut.* Was euer mother had a dearer losse

Alas I am the mother of these moanes,

Their woes are parceld, mine are generall:

She for *Edward* weepes, and so do I:

I for a *Clarence* weepe, so doth not she:

These babes for *Clarence* weepe and so do I:

I for an *Edward* weepe, and so doe they,

Alas, you three on me three-fold distrest.

Powre all your teares, I am your sorrowes nurse,

And I will pamper it with lamentations. *Enter Gloucester*

*Glo.* Maddam haue comfort, all of vs haue cause with others

To waile the dimming of our shining starre:

But none can cure their harines by wailing them.

Maddam my mother I doe cry you mercy,

I did not see your Grace, humbly on my knee

I craue your blessing.

*Dut.* God blesse thee, and put meekenesse in thy minde,

Loue, charity, obedience, and true duty.

*Glo.* Amen, make me to die a good old man:

That's the butt end of my mothers blessing,

I maruaile why her grace did leaue it out?

*Buc.* You cloudy Princes, and heart sorrowing Peares,

That beare this mutuall heauy load of moane,

Now cheare each others in each others loue:

Though we haue spent our haruest for this King,

We are to reape the haruest of his sonne:

The broken rancour of your high swolne hearts,

But lastly splinted, knit, and ioynd together,

Must greatly be preseru'd, cherisht, and kept,

Me seemeth good that with some little traine,

Forthwith from Ludlow the young Prince be fetcht

Hither to London to be cround our King.

E 2

*Glo.*



*The Tragedie*

*Glo.* Then be it so : and goe wee to determine  
who they shall be that straight shall post to Ludlow?  
Maddam and you my mother will you goe,  
To giue your sentures in this weighty businesse.

*Ans.* With all our hearts.

*Exeunt manet Glo. Buch.*

*Buc.* My Lord, who euer Iourneyes to the Prince,  
For Gods sake let not vs two be behinde :

For by the way Ile fort occasion,

As in dex to the story we lately talkt off,

To part the Queenes proud kindred from the King,

*Glo.* My other selfe, my counsels consistory

My Oracle, my prophet, my deere Cosen :

I like a child will goe by thy direction :

Towards Ludlow then for we will not stay behinde. *Exit.*

*Enter two Citizens.*

1. Neighbour well met, whither away so fast?

2. I promise you, I scarcely know my selfe.

1. Heare you the newes abroad?

2. I, that the King is dead.

1. Bat newes biriady, seldome comes better,  
I feare, I feare twill prooue a troublesome world. *Enter ano.*

3. *Cit.* Good morrow neighbours.

Doth this newes hould of good King Edwards death?

1. It doth. 3. Then masters looke to see a troublous world.

1. No, no, by Gods grace his sonne shall raigue.

3. Wo to that land thats genernd by a childe.

2. In him there is hope of gouernment,

That in his sonage, counsell vnder him,

And in his full ripened yeares, himselfe,

No doubt shall then, and till then gouerne well.

1. So stood the case when Harry the sixt  
was crownd at Paris, but at nine moneths old.

3. Stood the state so; no good my friend not so,

For then this land was famously in icht

With politicke graue counsell : then the King

Had vertuous Vncles to protect his Grace.

2. So hath this, both by the father and mother.

3. Better it were they all came by the father,

Or by the father there were none at all :

*of Richard the Third.*

For emulation now, who shall be earnest,  
Which touch vs all too neere if God preuent not  
Oh full of danger is the Duke of *Glocester*,  
And the Queenes kindred haughtie and proude,  
And were they to be rulde, and not rule,  
This sickly land might solace as before.

2. Come, come, we feare the worst, all shall be well,

3. When clouds appeare, wise men put on their clokes.

When greate leaues fall, the winter is at hand :

When the sunne sets who doth not looke for night?

Vntimely stormes make them expect a dearth :

All men be well : but if God sort it so,

Tis more then we deserue, or I expect,

1. 7 ruly the soules of men are full of dread :

Yea cannot almost reason with a man

That lookes not heauy and full of feare.

3. Before the time of change, still is it so :

By a deuine instinct mens mindes mistrust

Ensuing dangers as by prooffe we see,

The waters swell before a boystrous storme :

But leaue it all to God : whether away?

2. We are sent for to the Iustice.

3. And so was I, ile beare you company.

*Exeunt*

*Enter Cardinals, Dutches of Torke, Qu. young Torke.*

*Car.* Last night I heare they lay at Nothampton,

At stony-st. at-ford will they be to night,

To morrow or next day will they be heare.

*Dut.* I long with all my heart to see the Prince,

I hope he is much growne since last I saw him.

*Qu.* But I heere no they say my sonne of *Torke*

Hath ouertane him in growth.

*Tor.* I mother, but I would not haue it so.

*Dut.* Why my yong cousen it is good to grow.

*Tor.* Granam, on night as we did sit at supper,

My vncle *Riuers* talkt how I did grow

More then my brother, I quoth my Vncle *Glo.*

Small earbs haue grace, great weeds grow a pace :

And since me thinks I would not grow so fast,

Because sweete flowers, are slow, and weedes make hast.



*The Tragidie*

*Dut.* Good faith, good faith: the saying did not hold,  
In him that did obiect the same to thee:  
He was the wretchedst thing when he was young,  
So long a growing and so leaſurely,  
That if this were a rule he ſhould be gracious.  
*Car.* Why Maddam, ſo no doubt he is,  
*Dut.* I hope ſo too but yet let mothers doubt.  
*Yor.* Now by my troth if I had beene remembred,  
I could haue given my Vncles grace a flout, (mine)  
That ſhould haue neerer toucht his growth then he did  
*Dut.* How my pretty *Yorke*: I pray thee let me heare it.  
*Yor.* Marry they ſay, that my Vncle grew ſo faſt,  
That he could gnaw a cruſt at two houres old,  
Twas full two yeares ere I could get a tooth.  
*Granam*, this would haue beene a pritty ieſt.  
*Dut.* I pray thee pretty *Yorke*, who told thee ſo?  
*Yor.* *Granam*, his Nurſe.  
*Dut.* Why, ſhe was dead ere thou wert borne.  
*Yor.* If twere not ſhe, I cannot tell who told me.  
*Qu.* A perillous boy: go too thou art too ſhrewd,  
*Car.* Good Maddam be not angry with the child.  
*Qu.* Pitchers hath eares. *Enter Dorſet.*  
*Car.* Heere comes your ſonne, Lord Marques *Dorſet*,  
What newes Lord Marques?  
*Dor.* Such newes my Lord, as griues me to vnfold.  
*Qu.* How fares the Prince?  
*Dor.* Well Madam, and in health:  
*Dut.* What is the newes then?  
*Dor.* Lord *Riuers*, and Lord *Gray*, are ſent to Pomfret,  
With them Sir Thomas *Vaughan*, priſoners.  
*Dut.* Who hath committed them?  
*Dor.* The Mighty Dukes *Gloceſter* and *Buckingham*.  
*Car.* For what offence?  
*Dor.* The ſumme of all I can, I haue diſcloſed:  
Why or for what theſe Nobles were committed,  
Is all vnkowne to me, my gracious Lady.  
*Qu.* Ayme, I ſee the downefall of our Houſe,  
The Tiger now hath ſeaze the gentle Hinde:  
Inſulting tyranny begins to iet.

*of Richard the Third.*

Vpon the innocent and lawleſſe throane:  
Welcome deſtruction, death and maſſacre,  
I ſee as in a Mappe the end of all.  
*Dut.* Accurſed and vnquiet wrangling daies,  
How many of you haue mine eyes beheld?  
My husband loſt his life to get the crowne,  
And often vp and downe my ſonnes were toſt,  
For me to ioy and weepe their gaine and loſſe,  
And being ſeated, and domeſticke broyles  
Cleane ouerblowne, themſelues the conquerours,  
Make war vpon themſelues, blood againſt blood,  
Selfe againſt ſelfe, O prepoſterous  
And frankticke outrage, end thy damned ſpleene,  
Or let me die to looke on death no more.  
*Qu.* Come, come, my boy, we will to Sanctuary.  
*Dut.* He goe along with you.  
*Qu.* You haue no cauſe.  
*Car.* My gracious Lady, go.  
And thither beare your treaſure and your goods.  
For my part, He reſigne vnto your grace,  
The Scale I keepe, and ſo betide to me,  
As well I tender you, and all yours:  
Come He conduct you to the Sanctuary. *Exeunt.*  
*The Trumpets ſound Enter young prince, Duke of*  
*Gloceſter, and Buckingham, Cardinal, &c.*  
*Buc.* Welcome ſweete Prince to London to your chamber.  
*Glo.* Welcome ſweete Coſen my thoughts ſoueraigne:  
The weary way hath made you melancholy.  
*Prin.* No Vncle, but our croſſes one the way.  
Haue made it tedious, wearifome and heauy,  
I want more Vncles heere to welcome me:  
*Glo.* Sweete Prince, the vntainted vertue of your yeares,  
Haue not yet diued into the worlds deceit:  
Nor more can you diſtinguiſh of a man,  
Then of his outward ſhew, which God he knowes,  
Sendome or neuer iumperh with the heart:  
Thoſe vncles which you want were dangerous,  
Your grace attended to their ſugred words,  
But looke not on the poyſon of their hearts:



*The Tragedie*

God keepe you from them, and from such false friends.

*Prin.* God keepe me from false friends, but they were none.

*Glo.* My Lord, the Maior of London comes to greet you.

*Enter Lord Maire.* (daies.

*Lo. M.* God blesse your Grace, with health and happy

*Prin.* I thanke you good my Lord, and thanke you all.

I thought my mother, and my brother *Yorke*,

Would long ere this haue met vs on the way:

Fie what a slug is *Hastings* that he comes not

To tell vs whether they will come or no, *Enter L. Hast.*

*Buc.* And in good time heere comes the sweating Lord,

*Prin.* Welcome my Lord, what, will our mother come?

*Hast.* On what occasion God he knowes not I:

The Queene, your mother, and your brother *Yorke*

Haue taken Sanctuary: The tender Prince

Would faine come with me to meete your Grace:

But by his mother was perforce with-held.

*Buc.* Fie, what an indirect and peeuish course

Is this of hers? Lord *Cardinall*, will your Grace

Perfwade the Queene to send the Duke of *Yorke*

Vnto his Princely brother presently?

If she deny, Lord *Hastings* goe with them,

And from her ieaious armes plucke him perforce.

*Car.* My Lo. of *Backingham*, if my weake oratory

Can from his mother winne the Duke of *Yorke*

Anon expect him heere: but if she be obdurate

To milde intreaties, God forbid

We should infringe the holy priuiledge

Of blessed Sanctuary: not for all this Land,

Would I be guilty of so great a sinne.

*Buc.* You are too sencelesse obstinate my Lord,

Too ceremonius and Traditionall:

Weigh it but with the greatnesse of his age,

You breake not Sanctuary in seazing him:

The benefite thereof is alwayes granted

To those whose dealings haue deserued the place,

And those who haue the wit to claime the place.

This Prince hath neither claimed it, nor deserued it,

And therefore in mine opinion cannot haue it.

Then

*of Richard the Third.*

Then take him from thence that is not there,

You breake no priuiledge nor charter there:

Oft haue I heard of Sanctuary men,

But sanctuary children neuer till now.

*Car.* My Lord, you shall ouer-rule my mind for once?

Come one Lord *Hastings*, will you goe with me?

*Hast.* I goe my Lord.

*Exit. Car. & Hast.*

*Prin.* Good Lords make all the speedy hast you may:

Say Vncle *Glocester*, if our brother come,

Where shall we iourne till our Coronation?

*Glo.* Where it thinkst best vnto your royall selfe:

If I may counsell you some day or two

Your highnosse shall repose you at the Tower:

Then where you please as shall be thought most fit

For your best health and recreation.

*Prin.* I doe not like the Tower of any place,

Did *Iulius Caesar* build that place my Lord?

*Buc.* He did my gracious Lord begin that place,

Which since succeeding ages haue redified.

*Prin.* Is it vpon record or else reported

Successiuely from age to age hee built it?

*Buc.* Vpon record my gracious Lord.

*Prin.* But say my Lord it were not registerd,

Me thinkes the truth should liue from age to age,

As twere retaild to all posteritie,

Euen to the generall ending day.

*Glo.* So wise, so young, they say do neuer liue long.

*Prin.* What say you Vncle?

*Glo.* I say with out Characters same liues long:

That like the formall vice, iniquity,

I moralize two meanings in one word.

*Prin.* That *Iulius Caesar* was a famous man,

With what his valour did enrich his wit,

His wit set downe to make his valour liue:

Death makes no conquest of his conquerour,

For now he liues in fame, though not in life:

He tell you what my Cousen *Buckingham*.

*Buc.* What my gracious Lord?

*Prin.* And if I liue vnill I be a man.

F

He



*The Tragedie*

He winne our ancient right in France againe,  
Or dye a souldier as I liu'd a King,

*Glo.* Short sommers lightly haue a forward spring.

*Enter young Yorke, Hastings, Cardinall.*

*Buc.* Now in good time, heere comes the Duke of Yorke,

*Prin.* Richard of Yorke how fares our noble brother:

*Yor.* Well my deare Lord: so must I call you now.

*Prin.* I brother to our grieve, as it is yours:  
Too late hee died that might haue kept this title,  
Which by his death hath lost much maiesty,

*Glo.* How faires our cousen noble Lo. of Yorke.

*Yor.* I thanke you gentile vncle; O my Lord,  
You said that Idle weeds are fast in growth;  
The Prince my brother hath out growne me farre.

*Glo.* He hath my Lord.

*Yor.* and therefore is he idle?

*Glo.* Oh my faire cousen I must not say so.

*Yor.* Then he is more beholding to you then I:

*Glo.* He may command me as my soueraigne,  
But you haue power in me as in a kinsman.

*Yor.* I pray you vncle giue me this dagger.

*Glo.* My dagger little cousen with all my heart.

*Prin.* A begger brother?

*Yor.* Of my kind vncle that I know will giue  
And being but a toy which is no gift, to giue,

*Glo.* A greater gift then that Ile giue my cousen.

*Yor.* A greater gift, O thats the sword too it.

*Glo.* I gentle cousen were it light enough.

*Yor.* O then I see you will part but with light gifts,  
In weightier things youle say a beegr nay.

*Glo.* It is to weighty for your grace to weare.

*Yor.* I weigh it lightly were it heauier.

*Glo.* What would you haue my weapon little Lo.

*Yor.* I would that I might thanke you as you call me.

*Glo.* How? Yor, Little.

*Prin.* My L. of Yorke will still bee crosse in talke:  
Vncle your grace knowes how to beare with him.

*Yor.* You meane to beare me, not to beare with me;  
Vncle, my brother mockes both you and me,

*Of Richard the Third.*

Because that I am little like an Ape.

He thinkes that you should beare me one your shoulders.

*Buc.* With what a sharpe prouided wit hee reasons,  
To mitigate the scorne hee giue his vncle,  
He pretely and aptly taunts himselfe:

So cunning and so young is wonderfull.

*Glo.* My Lo. wilt please you passe along?

My selfe and my good cousen *Buckingham*,

Will to your mother, to intreat of her

To meet you at the Tower, and welcome you.

*Yor.* What will yongoe vnto the Tower my Lord?

*Prin.* My Lord protector will haue it so.

*Yor.* I shall not sleepe in quiet at the Tower.

*Glo.* Why what should you feare?

*Yor.* Marry my vncle *Clarence* angry ghost:

My Granam told me he was mured there.

*Prin.* I feare no vncles dead,

*Glo.* Nor none that liue, I hope.

*Prin.* And if they liue, I hope I neede not feare.

But come my L. with a heauy heart

Thinking on them, goe I vnto the Tower.

*Exeunt, Prin, Yor, Hast, Dor. manet, Bish, Buc.*

*Buc.* Thinke you my Lo, this little prating Yorke,

Was not incenced by his subtile mother,

To taunt and scorne you thus opprobriously?

*Glo.* No doubt, no doubt, O tis a perious boy,

Bold, quicke, ingenious, forward, capable,

He is all the mothers from the top to the toe,

*Buc.* Well let them rest: come hither *Catesby*,

Thou art sworne as deeply to effect what we intend,

As closely to conceale what we impart.

Thou knowest our reasons vrgde vpon the way:

What thinkest thou, is it not an easie matter

To make *William L. Hastings* of our minde,

For the instalment of this noble Duke,

In the seate royall of this famous Ile?

*Car.* He for his fathers sake so loues the Prince,

That he will not be wone to ought against him.

*Buc.* What thinkest thou then of Stanley, what will he?

Because

F 2



*The Tragedie*

*Cat.* He will doe all in all as *Hastings* doth.

*Buc.* Well then no more but this :

Go gentle *Catesby*, and as it were a farre off,  
Sound Lord *Hastings*, how he stands affected  
Vnto our purpose, If he be willing,  
Encourage him and shew him all our reasons :

If he be leaden, Icie. cold, vnwilling,  
Be thou so too : and so breake off your talke,  
And giue vs notice of his inclination,  
For we to morrow hold deuided counsels,  
Wherein thy selfe shalt highly be employed.

*Glo.* Commend me to Lo. *William*, tell him *Catesby*  
His ancient knoe of dangerous aduersaries.

To morrow are let blood at *Pomfret* Castle,  
And bid my friends for ioy of this good newes,  
Giue gentle *M<sup>r</sup> Shore* one genrile kisse the more.

*Buc.* Good *Catesby* effect this businesse soundly.

*Cat.* My good Lords both : with all the heede I may.

*Glo.* Shall wee heere from you *Catesby* ere wee sleepe?

*Cat.* You shall my Lord. *Exit Catesby.*

*Glo.* At *Crosby* place, there shall you finde vs both.

*Buc.* Now my Lord what shall we doe if we perceiue  
*William* Lord *Hastings* will not yeeld to our complots?

*Glo.* Chop off his head man, somewhat we will doe,  
And looke when I am King, claime thou of mee  
The Earledome of *Herford* and the moueables,  
Whereof the King my brother stood posselt.

*Buc.* Ile claime that promise at your hands.

*Glo.* And looke to haue it yealded with willingnesse,  
Come let vs sup betimes, that afterwards  
we may digest our complots in some forme. *Exeunt.*

*Enter a messenger to Lord Hastings.*

*Mess.* What ho my Lord.

*Hast.* Who knocks at the doore?

*Mess.* A messenger from the Lord *Stanley*. *Enter Lo. Hast.*

*Hast.* Whats a clocke?

*Mess.* Vpon the stroke of foure.

*Hast.* Cannot thy master sleepe the tedious nights?

*Mess.* So it should seeme by that I haue to say :

*of Richard the Third.*

First he commendes him to your noble Lordship.

*Hast.* And then. *Mess.* And then he sends you word,  
He dreamt to night, the Boare had cast his helme :  
Besides he sayes, there are two counsels held,  
And that many be determined at the one,  
Which may make you and him to rew at the other,  
Therefore he sends to know your Lordships pleasure  
If presently you will take horse with him,  
And with all speedy post into the North,  
To shun the danger that his soule diuines.

*Hast.* Good fellow goe returne vnto my Lord:  
Bid him not feare the separated counsels :

His honour and my selfe are at the one,  
And at the other is my seruant *Catesby* :

Where nothing can proceede that toucheth vs,  
Whereof I shall not haue intelligence.

Tell him his feares are shallow wanting instancy.

And for his dreames I wonder he is so fond,

To trust the mockery of vaquiet flumbers.

To flie the Boare before the Boare persues vs,

Were to incence the Boare to follow vs,

And make pursuite where he did meane to chase :

Go bid thy master rise and come to me,

And wee will both together to the Tower,

Where he shall see the Boare will vse vs kindly,

*Mess.* My gracious Kord Ile tell him what you say. *Exit.*

*Enter Catesby to Lord Hastings.*

*Cat.* Many good morrowes to my noble Lord.

*Hast.* Good morrow *Catesby* : you are early stirring,  
What newes, what newes, in this our tottering state?

*Cat.* it is a reeling world indeede my Lord,  
And I beleue twill neuer stand vpright

Till *Richard* weare the Garland of the R elme.

*Hast.* Who? weare the Garland? doest thou meane the

*Cat.* I my good Lord. *(Crowne?*

*Hast.* Ile haue this crowne of mine, cut from my shoul-  
Ere I will see the crowne so foule misplasse : *(ders,*

But canst thou gesse that he doth ayme at it?

*Cat.* Vpon my life may L. and hopes to finde you forward



*The Tragicke*

Vpon his party for the gaine there of,  
And therevpon he sends you this good newes:  
That this same very day, your enemies,  
The kindred of the Queene, must die at *Pomfret*.

*Hast.* Indeede I am no mourner for this newes,  
Because they haue beene still mine enemies:  
But that Ile giue my voyce on *Richards* side,  
To barre my masters heires in true discent,  
God knowes I will not do it to the death.

*Cat.* God keepe your Lordship in that gracious minde,

*Hast.* But I shall laugh at this a twelmonth hence,  
That they who brought me to my masters hate,  
I liue to looke vpon their tragedy:

I tell thee *Catesby*. *Cat.* What my Lord?

*Hast.* Ere a Fort-night make me elder,  
Ile send some packing that yet thinke not one it.

*Cat.* Tis a vile thing to die my gracious Lord  
When men are vnprepard, and looke not for it.

*Hast.* O monstrous, monstrous, and so fals it out  
With *Rimers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*, and so twill doo  
With some men else, who thinke themselues as safe  
As thou, and I, who as thou knowst are deare  
To Princely *Richard*, and to *Buckingham*.

*Cat.* The Princes both make high account of you,  
For they account his head vpon the bridge.

*Hast.* I know they doe and I haue well deserued it.

*Enter Lord Stanley.*

What my L. where is your Boare-speare man?  
Feare you the Boare, and goe you so vnprouided?

*Stan.* My L. good morrow: good morrow *Catesby*:  
You may kest one, but by the holy Roode,  
I doe not like these seuerall counsels I.

*Hast.* My L. I hold my life as deare as you doe yours,  
And neuer in my life I doe protest,  
Was it more precious to me then it is now,  
Thinke you but that I know our state secure,  
I would be so triumphant as, I am?

*Stan.* The Lords of *Pomfret* when they rode from *London*,  
Were iocund, and supposde their states was sure,

And

*of Richard the Third.*

And indeede had no cause to mistrust:  
But yet you see how soone the day orecaft,  
This suddaen scab of rancor I misdoubt,  
Pray God I say, I proue a needlesse coward,  
But come my Lord shall we to the Tower?

*Hast.* I go: but stay, heare you not the newes?  
This day thote men you talke of are beheaded.

*Sta.* They for their truth might better weare their heads,  
Then some that haue accused them weare their hats:  
Bat come my L. let vs away. *Exit. L., Stanley, & Cat.*

*Hast.* Go you before Ile follow presently.

*Enter Hastings a Pursuant.*

*Hast.* Well met *Hastings*, how goes the world with thee?

*Pur.* The better that it please your good Lordship to ask?

*Hast.* I tell thee fellow, tis better with me now,  
Then when I met thee last where now wee meete

Then was I going prisoner to the Tower,  
By the suggestion of the *Queenes* alies:

But now I tell thee (keepe it to thy selfe)

This day those enemyes are put to death,

And I in better state then euer I was.

*Pur.* God told it to your Honours good content.

*Hast.* Grainercy *Hastings*, hold spend thou that.

*He giues him his purse.*

*Pur.* God saue your Lordship. *Exit. Pur. Enter a Priest.*

*Hast.* What Sir *Iohn*, you are well met:

I am beholding to you for your last dayes exercise:

Come the next Sabbath, and I will content you. *He whispers.*

*Enter Buckingham. (in his eare,*

*Buc.* How now Lord *Chamberlaine*, what talking with a  
Your friends at *Pomfret* they doe need the Priest. *(priest.*  
Your Honour hath no striuing worke in hand.

*Hast.* Good faith, and when I met this holy man,  
Those men you talke of, came into my minde:

What, go you to the Tower my Lord?

*Buc.* I do, but long I shall not stay,

I shall returne before your Lordship thence,

*Hast.* Tis like enough for I stay dinner there.

*Buc.* And supper too although tooo knowest it not:

Come



The Tragedie

Come shall wee goe along?

*Enter Sir Richard Ratcliffe with the Lord Rivers.*

*Gray and Vaughan, prisoners,*

*Rat.* Come bring forth the prisoners.

*Riv.* Sir Richard Ratcliffe, let me tell thee this:

To day thou shalt be hold a subiect die,

For truth for duty and for loyalty.

*Gray.* God keepe the Prince from all the packe of you:

A knot you are of damned blood-suckers.

*Riv.* O Pomfret, Pomfret. O thou bloody prison,

Fatall and ominous to noble Peares:

Within the guilty closure of thy walles

*Richard* the second heere was hackt to death:

And for more slaunder to thy dismall soule,

We giue thee vp our guiltlesse blood to drinke.

*Gray.* Now *Margrets* curse it false vpon our heads,

For standing by, when *Richard* stabd her sonne.

*Riv.* Then curst she *Hastings*, then curst she *Buckingham*,

Then curst she *Richard*. O remember God,

To heare her prayers for them as now for vs,

And for my sister and her princely sonne:

Be satisfied deare God with our true bloods.

Which as thou knowest vniustly must be spilt.

*Rat.* Come, come, dispatch, the limit of your liues is out.

*Riv.* Come *Gray*, come *Vaughan*, let vs all imbrace

And take our leaues vntill we meete in heauen. *Exeunt.*

*Enter the Lords to counsell.*

*Hast.* My Lords at once, the cause why wee are met,

Is to determine of the Coronation.

In Gods name say when is this royall day?

*Buc.* Are all things fitting for that royall time?

*Dar.* It is, and let but nomination.

*Bish.* To morrow then, I gesse a happy time.

*Buc.* Who knowes the Lord *Protectors* minde herein?

Who is most inward with the noble Duke? *his minde*

*Bish.* Why you my L. me thinks you should soonest know

*Buc.* Who I my Lord? we know each others faces:

But for our hearts, he knowes no more of mine,

Then I of yours: nor I no more of his, then you of mine.

*Lord*

of Richard the Third

*Lord Hastings*, you and he are neere in loue.

*Hast.* I thanke his grace, I know he loues me well:

But for his purpose in the Coronation

I haue not sounded him, nor he deliuered

His graces pleasure any way therein:

But you my L. may name the time,

And in the Dukes behalfe Ile glue my voyce,

Which I presume he will take in good part,

*Bish.* Now in good time heere comes the Duke himselfe.

*Enter Gloucester.*

*Glo.* My noble L. and couens all good morrow,

I haue beene long a sleepe, but now I hope

My absence doth neglect no great designes,

Which by my presence might haue beene coneluded.

*Buc.* Had not you come vpon your kew my Lord,

*William L.* *Hastings* had now pronounst your part:

I meane your voyce from crowning of the King.

*Glo.* Then my L. *Hastings*, no man might be bolder,

His Lordship knowes me well, and loues me well,

*Hast.* I thanke your grace.

*Glo.* My Lord of *Elie*,

*Bish.* My Lord,

*Glo.* When I was last in Holborne,

I saw good strawberies in your garden there,

I doe beseech you send for some of them.

*Bish.* I goe my Lord.

*Glo.* Cousen *Buckingham*, a word with you:

*Catesby* hath sounded *Hastings* in our bulinesse,

And findes the testy gentleman so hote,

As he will loose his head ere giue consent,

His maisters sonne as worshipfull he termes it.

Shall loose the royalty of *Englands* throane.

*Buc.* Withdraw you hence my L. Ile follow you. *Ex. Glo.*

*Dar.* We haue not yet set downe this day of triumph,

To morrow in mine opinion is too soone:

For I my selfe am not so well prouided,

As else I would be, were the day prolonged.

*Enter the Bishop of Elie.*

*Bish.* Where is my L. *Protector*, I haue sent for these straw-

G

*Hast.*



*The Tragedie*

*Hast.* His grace lookes cherefully and smooth to day,  
Thers some conceite or other likis him well,  
When he doth bid good morrow with such a spirit,  
I thinke there is neuer a man in Christendome,  
That can lesser hide his loue or hate then hee:  
For by his face straight shall you know his heart.

*Dar.* What of his heart perceiue you in his face,  
By any likelihood he shewed to day?

*Hast.* Marry that with no man here he is offended;  
For if he were, he would haue shewde it in his face.

*Dar.* I pray God he be not, I say.

*Enter Gloucester.*

*Glo.* I pray you all, what do they deserue  
That do conspire my death with diuelish plots  
Of damned witchcraft, and that haue preuaild  
Vpon my body with their hellish charmes?

*Hast.* The tender loue I beare your grace my Lord  
Makes me most forward in this noble presence,  
To doome the offenders whatsoeuer they be:  
I say my Lord they haue deserued death,

*Glo.* Then be your eyes the witnesse of this ill,  
See how I am bewicht, behold mine arme  
Is like a blasted sapling withered vp.  
This is that *Edwards* wife, that monstrous witch,  
Consorted with that harlot strumpet *Shore*,  
That by their witchcraft thus haue marked me.

*Hast.* If they haue donethis thing my gracious Lord.

*Glo.* If thou *Protector* of this damned strumpet,  
Telft thou me of iss? thou art a traitor.  
Off with his head: Now by Saint Paul,  
I will not dine to day I swere,  
Vntill I see the same, some see it done:

The rest that loue me, come and follow me. *Exeunt, maior*

*Hast.* Wo, wo, for *England*, not a whit for me. *Ca with Hast.*  
For I too fond might haue preuented this:  
*Stanley* did dreame the boare did race his helme,  
But I disdained it and did scorne to flie,  
Three times to day my footecloth horse did stumble,  
And started when he lookt vpon the Tower,

*Of Richard the Third.*

As loth to beare me to the slaughter-house.

Oh now I warrant the Priest that spake to me,

I now repent I told the Pursuant,

As were triumphing at mine enemies,

How they at *Pomfret* bloodily were butcherd,

And I my selfe secure in grate and fauour,

Oh *Margret*, *Margret*: now thy heauie curse

Is lightened on poore *Hastings*: wretched head.

*Car.* Dispatch my Lord, the Duke would bee at dinner:

Make a short shrift he longs to see your head.

*Hast.* O momentary state of worly men,

Which we more hunt for, then for the grace of heauen:

Who builds his hopes in the aire of your faire lookes,

Liues like a drunken sayler on a mast,

Ready with euery nod to tumble downe

Into the fatall bowels of the deepe.

Come leade me to the blocke, beare him my head.

They smile at me, that shortly shall be dead *Exeunt:*

*Enter Duke of Gloucester, and Buckingham, in armour.*

*Glo.* Come counsell, canst thou quake & change thy colour

Murther thy breath in middle of a word,

And then begin againe and stop againe,

As if thou wert distraught and madd with terror,

*Buc.* Tut feare not me,

I can counterfeite the deepe Traiedian,

Speake and looke backe and pricke on euery side;

Intending deepe suspicion gaffly lookes

Are at my seruice like inforced smiles,

And both are ready in their offices

To grace my stratagems.

*Enter Maior,*

*Glo.* Here comes the maior.

*Buc.* Let me alone to entertaine him. Lord maior

*Glo.* Looke to the drawbridge there.

*Buc.* The reason we haue sent for you.

*Glo.* *Catesby* ouer looke the walles.

*Buc.* Marke, I heare a drumme,

*Glo.* Looke backe defend thee, here are enemies.

*Buc.* God and our innocency defend vs

*Glo.* O, O, be quiet, it is *Catesby*.

*Enter*



*The Tragedie*

*Enter Catesby with Hastings head.*

*Cat.* Heere is the head of that ignoble traitor,  
The dangerous and vn suspected *Hastings*.

*Glo.* So deare I lou'd the man, that I must weepe:  
Iooke him for the plainest harmelesse man,  
That breathed vpon this earth a Christian:  
Looke ye my Lord, Maior:

I made him my booke wherein my soule recorded  
The History of all her secret thoughts:  
So smooth he daub'd his vice with shew of vertue,  
That his apparent open guilt omitted:  
I meane his conuersation with *Shores* wife,  
He laid from all arrinder of suspect.

*Buc.* Well, well, he was the couer'd sheltered traitor  
That euer liu'd, would you haue imagined,  
Or almost beleue, were it not by great preservation  
We liue to tell it you? the subtile traitor  
Had this day plotted in the counsell house,  
To murder me and my good Lord *Glocester*.

*Ma.* What had he so?

*Glo.* What thinke ye, we are Turkes or Infidels,  
Or that wee should against the course of Law,  
Proceede thus rashly to the villaines death,  
But that the extreame perrill of the case,  
The peace of England, and our persons safety  
Inforst vs to this execution?

*Ma.* Now faire befall you, he deserued his death,  
And you my good L, both haue well proceeded,  
To warne false traitors from the like attempts:  
I neuer lookt for better at his hands,  
After he once fell in with Mistris *Shore*.

*Glo.* Yet had not we determined he should die,  
Vntill your Lordship came to see his death,  
Which now the longing hast of these our friends  
Some what against our meaning haue preuented,  
Because my Lord, we would haue had you heard  
The traitor speake, and timorously confesse  
The manner, and the purpose of his treason,  
That you might well haue signified the same.

*of Richard the Third.*

Vnto the Citizens, who happily may  
Misco[n]sture vs in him, and waile his death.

*Ma.* My good L. your gracious word shall serue,  
As well as I had seene or heard him speake:  
And doubt you not right noble Princes both,  
But Ile acquaint your dutious Citizens  
With all your iust proceedings in this case.

*Glo.* And to that end we wish your Lordship here,  
To auoyd the carping censures of the world.

*Buc.* But since you came too late of our intents,  
Yet witnesse what we did intend, and so my Lord adue.

*Glo.* After, after counsell *Buckingham*. *Exit Maior.*  
The Maior towards *Guild-hall* hies him in all post,  
There at your meetest aduantage of the time,  
Inferre the bastardy of *Edwards* children:  
Tell them how *Edward* put to death a Citizen,  
On ly for saying he would make his sonne  
Heire to the Crowne, meaning (indeede) his house,  
Which by the signe thereof was learned so.

Moreouer, vrge his hatefull luxury,  
And beastiall appetite in change of lust,  
Which stretched to their seruants, daughters, wiues,  
Euen where his lustfull eye, or sauage heart,  
Without controule listd to make his prey:

Nay for a need thus farre come neare my person,  
Tell them, when that my mother went with child  
Of that vnfortunate *Edward*, noble *Yorke*,  
My princely father then had warres in *France*,  
And by iust computation of the time,  
Found, that the issue was not his begot,  
Which well appeared in his lineaments,  
Being nothing like the noble Duke my father:  
But touch this sparingly as it were farre off,  
Because you know my Lord, my brother lues.

*Buc.* Feare not my Lord, Ile play the Orator  
As if the golden fee for which I pleade,  
Were for my selfe,

*Glo.* If you thriue well, bring them to Baynards Castle,  
Where you shall finde me well accompanied



*The Tragicall*

With reuerend fathers and well learned Bishops.

*Buc.* About three or foure a clocke looke to heare  
What newes Guild-hall affordeth, and so my Lord farewell.

*Glo.* Now will I in to take some priuie order *(Ex. Buc.)*  
To draw the Brates of *Clarence*, out of sight,  
And to giue notice that no manner of person  
At any time haue recourse vnto the Princes.

*Enter a Scriuener with a paper in his hand.*

This is the indictment of the good Lord *Hastings*,  
Which in a set hand fairely is ingross'd,  
That it may be this day red ouer in Pauls:  
And marke how well the sequell hangs together,  
Eleuen houres I spent to writ it ouer,  
For yesternight by *Catesby* was it brought me,  
The president was full as long a doeing,  
And yet within these fiue houres liu'd Lord *Hastings*  
Vntraint, vnexamined: free at liberty:

Here's a good world the while, Why who's so grosse  
That sees not this palpable deuice?

Yet who so blind but sayes he sees it not?

Bad is the world and all will come to nought,

When such bad dealing must be scene in thought: *Exit.*

*Enter Gloucester at one doore, Buckingham at another.*

*Glo.* How now my Lord what sayes the Citizens?

*Buc.* Now by the holy mother of our Lord,  
The Citizens are mumme and speake not a word.

*Glo.* Toucht you the bastardy of *Edwards* Children?

*Buc.* I did: with the insatiate greedinesse of his desires,  
His tyranny for trifles: his owne bastardy,  
As being got your father then in *France*:

Withall I did inferre your lineaments,

Being the right Idea of your father:

Both in forme and noblenesse of minde:

Layd vpon all your victories in *Scotland*:

Your Discipline in warre, wisdom in peace:

Your bounty, vertue, faire humilitie:

Indeede left nothing fitting for the purpose

Vntouch't or sleightly handled in discourse:

And when my oratory grew to end,

*of Richard the Third.*

I bad them that loues their Countries good,  
Cry God saue *Richard* Englands royall King

*Glo.* And did they so?

*Buc.* No so God helpe me,

But like dumbe statues or breathlesse stones,

Gazde each on other and lookt deadly pale:

Which when I saw, I reprehended them:

And askt the Maior what meanes this wilful silence?

His answer was the people were not wont

To be spooke too, but by the Recorder.

Then he was vrgde to tell my tale againe.

Thus saith the Duke, thus hath the Duke infer'd:

But nothing spake in warrant from himselfe:

When he had done, some followers of mine owne

At the lower end of the hall, hurled vp their caps,

And some ten voyces cryed, God saue King *Richard*

Thanks noble Citizens and friends quoth I,

This generall applause and louing shoute,

Argues your wisdom and your loue to *Richard*:

And so brake off and came away.

*Glo.* what tonguelesse blockes were they, would they not

*Buc.* No by my troth my Lord,

*(speake?)*

*Glo.* Will not the Mayor then, and his brethren come?

*Buc.* The Mayer is heere: and intend some feare,

Be not spoken withall, but with mighty sute:

And looke you get a prayer booke in your hand,

And stand betwixt two Church-men good my Lord,

For on that ground Ile build a holy descant:

Be not easie wonne to our request:

Play the maydes part, say no, but take it.

*Glo.* Feare not me, if thou canst pleade as well for them,

As I can say nay to thee for my selfe,

No doubt weele bring it to a happy issue.

*Buc.* you shall see what I can do, get you vp to the leads, *Ex.*

Now my Lord Maior, you dance attendance heere,

I thinke the Duke will not be spoken withall. *Enter Catesby*

Here comes his seruant: how now *Catesby*, what sayes hee?

*Car.* My Lord he doth intreat your grace

To visit him to morrow, or next day:

*He*



He is within and two reuerend Fathers,  
Diuinely bent to meditation,  
And in no worldly sute would he be mou'd,  
To draw him from his holy exercise.

*Buc.* Returne good *Catesby* to thy Lord againe;  
Tell him my selfe, the Maior and Citizens,  
In deepe designs and matters of great moment,  
No lesse importing them then our generall good,  
Are come to haue some conference with his grace.

*Cat.* Ile tell him what you say my Lord.

*Buc.* A ha my Lord, this Prince is not an *Edward*;  
He is not lulling on a leawd day bed,  
But on his knees at meditation;  
Not dallying with a brace of Curtizans,  
But meditating with two deepe Diuines;  
Not sleeping to ingrosse his idle body,  
But praying to enrich his watchfull soule;  
Happy were *England*, would this gracious prince  
Take on himselfe the souerainety thereon,  
But sure I feare we shall neuer winne him to it.

*Ma.* Marry God forbid his grace should say vs nay.

*Enter Catesby.*

*Buc.* I feare he will, how now *Catesby*,  
What sayes your Lord?

*Cat.* My Lord he wonders to what end you haue assembled  
Such troopes of Citizens to speake with him,  
His grace not being warnd thereof before:  
My lord, he feares you meane no good to him.

*Buc.* Sory I am my noble cousin should  
Suspect me that I meane no good to him,  
By heauen I come in perfect loue to him,  
And so once more returne and tell his grace:  
When holy and deuout religious men,  
Are at their beads, tis hard to daw them hence,  
So sweete is zealous contemplation.

*Enter Rich, and two Bishops aloft.*

*Mai.* See where he stands betweene two Clergimen.

*Buc.* Two props of vertue for a Christian Prince:  
To stay him from the fall of vanity,

*Famous Plantagenet*, most gracious prince,  
Lend fauorable cares to my request:  
And pardon vs the interruption  
Of thy deuotion and right Christian zeale.

*Glo.* My Lord, there needs no such Apologie,  
I rather doe beseech you pardon me,  
Who earnest in the seruice of my God,  
Neglect the visitation of my friends:  
But leauing this, what is your graces pleasure?

*Buc.* Euen that I hope which pleaseth God about,  
And all good men of this vngouerned Ile.

*Glo.* I doe suspect, I haue done some offence,  
That seeme disgracious in the Cities eyes,  
And that you come to reprehend my ignorance:

*Buc.* You haue my Lord: would it please your grace  
At our intreaties to amend that fault.

*Glo.* Else wherefore breath I in a Christian land?

*Buc.* Then know it is your fault that you resigne  
The Supream Seate, the thronemaiesticall,  
The Scepter office of your Ancestors.  
The lineall glory of your royall House,  
To the corruption of a blemisht stocke:  
Whilest in the mildenesse of your sleepe thoughts,  
Which heere we waken to your Countries good:  
This noble Ile doth want his proper limbes,  
Her face defac't with scars of infamy,  
And almost shouldred in this swallowing gulph  
Of blinde forgetfullnesse and darke obliuion:  
Which to recouer we hartily solícite  
Your gracious selfe to take on you the souerainty thereof,  
Not as *Protector*, *Steward*, *Substitute*,  
Nor lowly factor for an others gaine?  
But as successiue from blood to blood,  
Your right of birth your Emperie, your owne:  
For this conformed with the Citizens,  
Your worshipfull and very louing friends,  
And by there vehement instigation,  
In this iust sute come I to mone your Grace.

*Glo.* I know not whither to depart in silence,

H

Or

Famous



*The Tragedie*

Or bitterly to speake in your reproofe,  
 Best fittest my degree or your condition :  
 Your loue desrues my thankses, but my desert  
 Vnmeritable shames your high request,  
 First if all obstacles were cut away,  
 And that my path were euen to the crowne,  
 As my right reueneue and due by birth,  
 Yet so much is my pouerty of spirit,  
 So mighty and so many my defects,  
 As I had rather hide me from my greatnesse,  
 Being a Barke to brooke no mighty sea,  
 Then in my greatenesse couet to be hid,  
 And in the vapour of my glory smothered :  
 But God be thanked there's no neede for me,  
 And much I neede to helpe you if neede were,  
 The royall tree hath left vs royall fruite,  
 Which mellowed by the stealing houres of time,  
 Will well become the seate of maiesty ;  
 And make no doubt vs happy by his raigne,  
 On him I lay, what you would on me :  
 The right and fortune of his happy starres,  
 Which God defend that I should wring from him.  
*Buc.* My Lord this argues conscience in your grace  
 But the respects thereof are nice and triuiall,  
 All circumstances well considered.  
 You say that *Edward* is your brothers sonne,  
 So say we too, but not by *Edwards* wife :  
 For first he was contracted to Lady *Lucie*.  
 Your mother liues, a witnesse to that vow,  
 And afterwards by substitute betrothed  
 To *Bona* sister to the King of *France*,  
 These both put by a poore petitioner,  
 A care-crazd mother of many children,  
 A beauty-waining and distressed widdow,  
 Euen in the afternoone of her best dayes,  
 Made price and purchase of his lustfull eye,  
 Seduce the pitch and height of all his thoughts,  
 To base declension loathed bigamic,  
 By her in this vlawfull bed he got,

This

*Of Richard the Third.*

This *Edward*, whom our manners terme the Prince:  
 More bitterly could expostulate,  
 Saue that for reuerence to some aliue  
 I giue a sparing limet to my tongue :  
 Then good my Lord, take to your royall selfe,  
 This proffered benefit of dignity ?  
 If not to blesse vs and the land withall.  
 Yet to draw out your royall stocke,  
 From the corruption of a busie time,  
 Vnto a lineall true deriued course.

*May.* Do, good my Lord, your citzens entreat you

*Car.* O make them ioyfull, grant their lawfull sute.

*Glo.* Alas, why should you heape those cares on me

I am vnfit for state and dignity :

I doe beseech you take it not amisse,

I cannot, nor I will not yeeld to you.

*Buc.* If you refuse it as in loue and zeale,

Loth to depose the childe your brothers sonne,

As well we know your tenderesse of heart,

And gentle kind effeminate remorse,

Which we haue noted in you to youre kin,

And equally indeed to all estates,

Yet whether you except our sute or no,

Your brothers sonne shall neuer raigne our King,

But we will plant some other in the throne,

To the disgrace and downefall of your house :

And in this resolution here I leaue you,

Come Citzens, zounds, Ile intreat no more.

*Glo.* O doe not sweare my Lord of *Buckingham*.

*Car.* Call them againe, my Lord and accept their sute.

*Ano.* Do good my Lord, least all the land doe rew it.

*Glo.* Would you enforce me to a world of care ?

Well call them againe, I am not made of stones,

But penetrable to your kind intreats,

Albeit against my conscience and my soule,

Cousen of *Buckingham*, and you sage graue men,

Since you will buckle fortune on My backe,

To beare the burthen whether I will or no,

I must haue patience to endure the load,

H 2

But



*The Tragedie*

But if blacke scandall or so foule fac't reproach  
Attend the sequell of your imposition,  
Your meere inforcement shall acquittance me  
From all the impure blots and stains thereof,  
For God he knowes and you may partly see,  
How farre I am from the desire thereof.

*May.* God blesse your grace, we see it, and will say it.

*Glo.* In saying so, you shall but say the truth.

*Buc.* Then I salute you with this kingly title:

Long liue King *Richard*, Englands royall King.

*May.* Amen.

*Buc.* To morrow will it please you to be crown'd?

*Glo.* Euen when you will, since you will haue it so.

*Buc.* To morrow, then we will attend your grace.

*Glo.* Come let vs to our holy taske againe.

Farewell good counsa, farewell gentle friends. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Queene mother, Dutches of Yorke, Marques*

*Dorset at one doore, Dutches of Gloucester*  
*at another doore.*

*Dut.* Who meetes vs heere my Neece *Plantagenet*?

*Qu.* Sister well met, whither away so fast?

*Dut. Glo.* No farther then the Tower, and as I guesse,  
Vpon the like deuotion as your selues,  
To gratulate the tender princes there.

*Qu.* Kind sister thanks weele enter all together.

*Enter the Lieutenant of the Tower.*

And in good time here the Lieutenant comes.

*M.* Lieutenant, pray you by your leaue,  
How fares the Prince?

*Lien.* Well Maddam and in health: but by your leaue,  
I may not suffer you to visit him,  
The King hath straightly charged to the contrary.

*Qu.* The King, why, who's that?

*Lien.* I cry you mercy I meane the Lord Protector.

*Qu.* The Lord protect him from that Kingly title:  
Hath he set bonds betwixt there loue and me:  
I am their mother who should keepe me from them?  
I am their father, mother, and will see them.

*Dut. Glo.* Their Aunt I am in law, in loue their mother:

*of Richard the Third.*

Then feare not thou, Ile beare thy blame,

And take thy office from thee one my perill.

*Lien.* I doe beseech your graces all to pardon me:

I am bound by oath, I may not doe it.

*Enter Lord Stanley.*

*Stan.* Let me but meete your Ladies at an houre hence,

And Ile salute your grace of *Yorke*, as mother:

And reuerent looker one, of two faire Queenes.

Come Madam, you must goe with me to *Westminster*,

Thereto be crowned *Richards* royall Queene.

*Qu.* O cut my lace in sunder, that my pent heart

May haue some scope to beate, or else I found

With this dead liking newes.

*Dor.* Madam haue comfort, how fares your grace?

*Qu.* O *Dorset*, speake not to me, get thee hence,

Death and destruction dogge thee at the heeles,

Thy mothers name is ominous to children,

If thou wilt ouer strip death, goe crosse the Seas,

And liue with *Robinson* from the race of hell,

Goe hie thee, hie thee, from this slaughter-house,

Least thou increace the number of the dead,

And make me die the thrall of *Margrets* curse,

Nor mother, wife, nor *Englands* counted Queene.

*Sta.* Full of wise care is this your counsell Madam,

Take all the swift aduantage at the time,

You shall haue letters from me to my sonne,

To meete you on the way and welcome you,

Be not taken tardy by vnwise delay.

*Dut. Yor.* O ill disperfing winde of misery,

O my accursed wombe the bed of death,

A Cokatrice hath thou hatcht to the world,

Whose vnauoyded eye is murtherous.

*Stan.* Come Madam, I in all hast was sent for.

*Dut.* And I in all vnwillingnesse will goe,

I would to god that the inclusiue verge

Of goulden mettall that must round my browe,

Were red hotte Steele to seare me to the braine,

Ann ynted let me be with deadly poyson,

And die ere men can say God saue the Queene.



*The Tragicall*

*Qu.* Alas poore soule, I enuie not thy glory,  
To feede my humor, with thy selfe no harme.  
*Dut. Glo.* No, when he that is my husband now,  
Came to me I followed *Henries* course,  
When the blood was scarce washt from his hands,  
Which issued from my other angell husband,  
And that dead saint, which then I weeping followed,  
O, When I say, I lookt on *Richards* face,  
This was my wish, be thou quoth I accurst,  
For making me so yong so old a widow.  
And when thou wedst, let sorrow haunt thy bed,  
And be thy Wife if any be so badde  
As miserable by the death of thee.  
As thou hast made me by my deare Lords death,  
Loe euen I can repeate this curse againe,  
Euen in so short a space, my womans heart  
Crossly grew captiue to his hony words,  
And prou'd the subiects of mine owne soules curse,  
Which euer since hath kept mine eyes from sleepe,  
For neuer yet, one houre in his bed,  
Haue I enioyed the golden dew of sleepe,  
But haue bene waked by his timerous dreames,  
Besides he hates me for my father *Warwicke*,  
And will shortly be rid of me.

*Qu.* Alas poore soule, I pittie thy complaints.  
*Dut. Glo.* No more then from my soule I mourne for yours  
*Qu.* Farewell, thou weofull welcomer of glory.  
*Dut. Glo.* Aduce poore soule thou takest thy leaue of it.  
*Dut. Tor.* Go thou to *Richmond* & good fortune guide thee  
Go thou to *Richard*, and good *Angels* guard thee,  
Go thou to sanctuary, good thoughts possesse thee,  
I to my graue where peace and rest lie with me,  
Eighty old yeares of sorrow haue I scene,  
And each houres ioy wrackt with a weeke of teene.

*The trumpets sound, Enter Richard crowned, Buckingham, Catesby, with other Nobles*  
*King.* Stand all a part, Cousen of *Buckingham*,  
Giue me thy hand: Here he ascends his throne.

*of Richard the Third.*

Thus high by thy aduice  
Add thy assistance is King *Richard* seated:  
But shall we were these honours for a day?  
Or shall they last and we reioyce in them?  
*Buc.* Still liue they, and foreuer may they last.  
*King.* O *Buckingham* now I doe play the touch,  
To try if thou be currant gold nedeede:  
*Tong Edward* liues: thinke now what I would say  
*Buc.* Say on my gracious soueraigne.  
*King.* Why *Buckingham* I say I would be King.  
*Buc.* Why see you are my thrice renowned Liege,  
*King.* Ha: am I King? tis so, but *Edward* liues.  
*Buc.* True noble Prince.

*King.* O bitter consequence,  
That *Edward* still should liue true noble Prince,  
Cousen thou wert not wont to be so dull,  
Shall I be plaine I wish the bastards dead,  
And I would haue it suddainly performde,  
What saiest thou? speake suddenly, be brieft,  
*Buc.* Your grace may doe your pleasure.  
*King.* Tut, tut, thou art all yce, thy kindenesse freezeth,  
Say, haue I thy consent that they shall die?  
*Buc.* Giue me some breath my Lord,  
Before I positiuely speake herein:  
I will resolute your grace immediatlie.  
*Car.* The King is angry see he bites his lip.  
*King.* I will conuerse with iron wittie fooles,  
And vnrespectiue *Boyes*, none are for me  
That looke into me with considerate eyes:  
*Boy*, high reaching *Buc ingham* growes circumspect.  
*Boy.* Lord.

*King.* Knowst thou not any whome corrupting gold  
Would tempt vnto a close exploit of death.  
*Boy.* My Lord, I know a discontented Gentleman,  
Whose humble meanes matcht not his haughry minde  
Gold were as good as twenty Orators,  
and will no doubt tempt him to any thing.  
*King.* What is his name?  
*Boy.* His name my Lord, is *Terrill*.

*King*



*King.* Goe call him hither presently.  
The deepe resolving witty *Buckingham*,  
No more shall be the neighbour to my counsell,  
Hath he so long held out with me vntirde,  
And stops he now for breath?

*Enter Darby.*  
How now what newes with you?

*Dar.* My Lord I heare the Marquesse *Dorset*  
Is fled to *Richmond*, in those parts beyond the seas  
Where he abides.

*King. Catelby.* *Car.* My Lord.  
*King.* Rumor is abroad

That *Anne* my wife is sicke and like to die,  
I will take order for her keeping close:  
Enquire me out some meene borne Gentleman,  
Whome I will marry straight to *Clarence* daughter  
The boy is foolish and I feare not him:  
Looke how thou dreamst: I say againe, giue out  
That *Anne* my wife is sicke and like to die.  
About it, for it stands me much vpon,  
To stop all hopes whose growth may damage me,  
I must be married to my brothers daughter,  
Or else my Kingdome stands on brittle glasse,  
Murther her brother, and then marry her,  
Vncertaine way of gaine, but I am in  
So farre in blood, that sin plucks on sin,  
Teares falling pittie dwels not in this eye.

*Enter Tirrel.*  
Is thy name *Tirrel*?  
*Tir.* *James Tirrel*, and your most obedient subiect.

*King.* Art thou indeed?

*Tir.* Proue me my gracious soueraigne.

*King.* Dar'st thou resolute to kill a friend of mine?

*Tir.* I my Lord; but I had rather kill two deepe enemies,

*King.* Why there thou hast it, two deepe enemies.  
Foes to my rest that my sweete sleepes disturbs,  
Are they that I would haue thee deale vpon:

*Tirrel*, I meane those bastards in the Tower.

*Tir.* Let me haue meanes to come to them,

And soone lie rid you from the feare of them,

*King.* Thou singst sweete musicke, Come hither *Tirrell*,  
Go by that token, rise and lend thine eare. *Hee whispers in*  
Tis no more but so, say, is it done *his eare.*  
And I will loue thee and preferre thee too.

*Tir.* Tis done my good Lord.

*King.* Shall wee heare from thee *Tirrell*, ere we sleepe?

*Tir.* Yea my good Lord. *Enter Buckingham.*

*Buc.* My Lord, I haue considered in my mind,  
The late demand that you did found me in.

*King.* Well let that passe *Dorset* is fled to *Richmond*.

*Buc.* I heare that newes my Lord.

*King.* *Stanley*, he is your wiues sonne: Well lookt too it.

*Buc.* My Lord I claime your gift, my due by promise,  
For which your honor and your faith is pawnd,  
The Earldome of Herford and the moucables,  
The which you promised I should possesse.

*King.* *Stanley* looke to your wife, if they conuey  
Letters to *Richmond* you shall answer it.

*Buc.* What sayes your Highnesse to my iust demand?

*King.* As I remember *Henry* the sixt  
Did prophesie that *Richmond* should be King,  
When *Richmond* was a little peeuish boy,  
A King perhaps, perhaps,

*Buc.* My Lord.

*King.* How chance the prophet could not at that time,  
Haue told me I being by, that I should kill him.

*Buc.* My Lord, your promise for the Earldome.

*King.* *Richmond*, When last I was at *Exeter*,  
The Maior in curtesie shewed me the Castle,  
And called it *Rugeimount*, at which name I started,  
Because a Bard of *Ireland* told me once  
I should not liue long after I saw *Richmond*

*Buc.* My Lord.

*King.* I whats a clocke?

*Buc.* I am thus bold to put your grace in minde  
Of what you promised me.

*King.* Well but whats a clocke?

*Buc.* Vpon the stroke of ten.



*The Tragedie*

*King.* Well, let it strike.

*Buc.* Why let it strike?

*King.* Because that like a Iacke thou keepst the stroke  
Betwixt thy begging and my meditation:

I am not in the giuing vaine to day.

*Buc.* Why then resolute me whether you will or no?

*King.* Tut, tut, thou troublest me, I am not in the vaine, *Exit.*

*Buc.* Is it euen so, rewards hee my true seruice  
With such deepe contempt, made I him King for this?  
O let me thinke on Hastings and be gone  
To *Brecknocke*, while my fearefull head is on.

*Enter Sir Francis Tirrell.*

*Tir.* The tiranous and bloody deede is done,  
The most arch-acts of pittious massacre,  
That euer yet this land was guilty of,  
*Dighton* and *Forrest* whom I did subborne,  
To do this ruthfull peece of butchery,  
Although they were flesht villaines, bloody dogs,  
Melting with tenderesse and compassion,  
Wept like two children in their deaths sad stories:  
Loe thus quoth *Dighton* lay these tender babes,  
Thus, thus quoth *Forrest* girdling one another  
Within their inocent alabaster armes,  
Their lipes like foure red Roses on a stalke,  
When in there sommer beauty kist each other,  
A booke of prayer one their pillow laie,  
which once quoth *Forrest* almost chang'd my mind,  
But O the Diuell! there the villian stopt,  
Whilst *Dighton* thus told, on we smothered  
The most replenisht sweet worke of nature  
That from the prime Creation euer he framde,  
They could not speake, and so I left them both,  
To bring these tidings to the bloody King,

*Enter King Richard.*

And heare he comes. All haile my soueraigne Liege.

*King.* Kind *Tirrell*, and I happy in thy newes?

*Tir.* If to haue done the thing you gaue in charge  
Beger your hapynesse, bee happy then,  
For it is done my Lord.

*Of Richard the Third.*

*King.* But didst thou see them dead?

*Tir.* I did my Lord.

*King.* And buried gentle *Tirrell*?

*Tir.* The Chaplaine of the Tower hath buried them:  
But how or in what place I doe not know.

*King.* Come to mee *Tirrell* soone after supper,  
And thou shalt tell the processe of their death,  
Meane time but thinke how I may do thee good,

And be inheritor of thy desire, *Exit Tirrell.*  
Farewell till soone.

The sonne of *Clarence* haue I pend vp close,  
His daughter meanelly haue I matcht in marriage,  
The sonnes of *Edward* sleepe in *Abrahams* bolome,  
And *Anne* my wife hath bid the world goodnight:  
Now for I know the Brittain *Richmond* aimes  
And yong *Elizabeth* my brothers daughter,  
And by that knot lookes proudly ore the Crowne,  
To her I goe a iolly thriuing wooer. *Enter Catesby.*

*Car.* My Lord.

*King.* Good newes or bad, that thou comest so bluntly?

*Car.* Bad newes my Lord, *Ely* is fled to *Richmond*,  
And *Buckingham* backt with the hardy *Welchmen*  
Is in the field, and still his power encreaseeth,

*King.* *Ely* with *Richmond* troubles me more neare  
Then *Buckingham* and his rash leuel army:  
Come I haue heard that fearefull commenting,  
Is leaden seruitor to dull delay,  
Delay leades impotent and snail-pac't beggery,  
Then fiery expedition be my wings,  
Ioue, *Mercury*, and Herald for a King:

Come muster men, my counsaile is my shield,  
We must be brieft, when traytors braue the field. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Queene Margret sola.*

*Qu. Mar.* So now prosperity begins to mellow,  
And drop into the rotten mouth of death:  
Here in these confines illie haue I lurkt,  
To watch the waining of mine aduersaries:  
A dire induction am I witnesse too,  
And will to *France*, hoping the consequence



*The Tragedie*

Will proue as bitter, blacke and tragicall,  
Withdraw thee wretched *Margret*, who com's heere;

*Enter the Queene, and the Dutches of Yorke.*

*Qu.* Ah my young Princes, ah my tender babes,  
My vnblowne flower, new appearing sweets,  
If yes your gentle soules flie in the aere,  
And be not fixt in doome perpetuall,  
Houer above me with your airie wings,  
And heare your mothers lamentations.

*Qu. Mar.* Houer about her, say that right for right,  
Hath dimd your infant mothe, to aged night,

*Qu.* Wilt thou O God flie from such gentle lambes,  
And throw them in the intrayles of the Wolfe:

When didst thou sleepe! when such a deed was done?

*Qu. Mar.* When holy *Mary* died, and my sweete son.

*Dut.* Blinde sight, dead life, poore mortall liuing Ghost,  
Woes scape, worlds shame, graues due by life vsurpt,  
Rest their vnrrest on *Englands* lawfull earth,  
Vnlawfull made d-unke with innocents blood.

*Qu.* O that thou wouldst as well afford a graue,  
As thou canst yeeld a melancholly seat,  
Then would I hide my bones, not rest them heere:  
O who hath any cause to moune but I?

*Dut.* So many miseries haue craz'd my voyce  
That my woe-weried tongue is mute and dumbe,  
*Edward* plantagenet, why art thou dead?

*Qu. Mar.* If auncient sorrow be most reuerent,  
Giue mine the benefit of signiorie,  
And let my woes frowne on the vpper hand,  
If sorrow can admit society,

Tell ouer your woes againe by vewing mine:  
I had an *Edward* till a *Richard* kild him.  
I had a *Richard*, till a *Richard* kill him.  
Thou hadst an *Edward*, till a *Richard* kild him.  
Thou hadst a *Richard*, till a *Richard* kild him.

*Dut.* I had a *Richard* too, and thou didst kill him:  
I had a *Rusland* too, and thou help't to kill him:

*Qu. Mar.* Thou wast a *Clarence* too, till *Richard* kild him.  
From forth the kennell of thy wombe hath crept,

A hell-

*of Richard the Third.*

A hell hound that doth hunt vs all to death,  
That Dogge that had his teeth before his eyes  
To worry lambes, and lap their gentle bloods,  
That ioule defacer of Gods handy worke,  
Thy wombe let loose to chafe vs to our graues,  
O vpright, iust, and true disposing God,  
How do I thanke thee, for this carnall curie  
Preyes on the issue of his mothers body,  
And make her pue-fellow with others mone.

*Dut.* O, *Harries* wife, triumph not in my woes,  
God witnesse with me I haue wept for thee.

*Qu. Mar.* Beare with me I am hungry for reuenge,  
And now I cloie me with beholding it:

Thy *Edward* he is dead, that stabd my *Edward*,  
Thy other *Edward* dead, to quit my *Edward*,  
Yong *Yorke*, he is but boote, because both they  
Match not the high perfection of my losse:

Thy *Clarence* he is dead, that kild my *Edward*,  
And the beholders of this tragicke play,  
The adulterate *Hastings*, *Rimers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*,  
Vntimely smothered in their duskie graues,

*Richard* yet liues, hels blacke intelligencer,  
Onely reserued their factor to buy soules,  
And send them thither, but at hand,

Ensues his pittious, and vnpittied end,  
Earth gapes, hell burnes, fiends roare, Saints pray,  
To haue him suddenly conueyed away.

Cancell his bonds of life deare God I pray,  
That I may liue to say the Dog is dead.

*Qu.* O thou didst prophesie the time would come  
That I should wish for thee to helpe me curse  
That borteled spider, that foule hunch-backt toad.

*Qu. Mar.* I call thee then vaine flourish of my fortune,  
I call thee then poore shaddow painted Queene,  
The presentation of but what I was,  
The fluttering index of a direfull pageant,  
One head a high to be hurled downe below,  
A mother onely, mockt with two sweet babes,  
A dreame of which thou wert, a breath, a bubble,

I 3

A signe



*The Tragic*

A signe of dignity, a garish flagge,  
To bee the aime of euery dangerous shot,  
A Queene in ieast, onely to fill the sceane:  
Where is thy husband now, where be thy brothers?  
Where be thy children, wherein doest thou ioy?  
Who sues to me and cries God saue the Queene?  
Where be the bending Peeres that flattered thee?  
where be the thronging troupes that followed thee  
Decline all this and see what now thou art,  
For happy wife, almost distressed widdow:  
For ioyfull mother one that wailles the name:  
For Queene, a uery Catife crown'd with care:  
For one being sued too, one that humble sues:  
For one comandning all, obeyed of none:  
For one that scorn'd at me, now scorn'd of me.  
Thus hath the course of iustice wheel'd about,  
And left me but a very prey to time,  
Hauing no more, but thought of what thou art,  
To torture thee the more, being what thou art:  
Thou didst vsurpe my place, and doest thou not  
Vsurpe the iust proportion of my sorrow?  
Now thy proud necke, beares halfe my burthened yoke,  
From which, euen heere, I slip my wearied necke,  
And leaue the burthen of it all on thee:  
Farewell *Yorkes* wife, and Queene of sad mischance,  
These English woes will make me smile in France.  
*Qu.* O thou well skild in curses stay a while,  
And teach me how to curse mine enemies.  
*Qu. Mar.* Forbeare to sleepe the night, and fast the day,  
Compare deaths happinesse with liuing woe,  
Thinke that thy babes were fairer then they were,  
And he that slew them fowler then he is:  
Battering thy losse make the bad causer worse,  
Revoluing this will teach thee how to curse.  
*Qu.* My words are dull, O quicken them with thine,  
*Qu. M.* Thy woes will make them sharp & pierce like mine.  
*Dur.* Why should calamity be full of words? *Exit Ma.*  
*Qu.* Windie attunies to your clients woes,  
A fiery succeders of intestine ioyes,

*of Richard the Third.*

Poore breathing orators of miseries,  
Let them haue scope, though what they doe impart  
Helpe not all, yet not doe they ease the hart.

*Dur.* If so, then be not tong-tide, goe with me,  
And in the breath of bitter words, lets smoothe her  
My damned sonne, which thy too sonnes smother'd  
I heare his drum, be copious in exclames.

*Enter King Richard marching with drummes  
and trumpets.*

*King.* Who intercepts my expedition?

*Dur.* A she, that might haue intercepted thee,  
By strangling thee in her accursed wombe,  
From all the slaughters wretch, that thou hast done.

*Qu.* Had'st thou that forehead with a golden crowne,  
Where should be grauen, if that right were right,  
The slaughter of the Paine that owde that crowne,  
And the dire death of my two sonnes, and brothers:  
Tell me thou villaine slaue, where are my children?

*Dur.* Thou tode, thou tode, where is thy brother *Clarenc*?  
And little Ned Plantagenet, his sonne?

*Qu.* Where is kind *Hastings*, *Rivers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*,

*King.* A flourish trumpets, strike alarum drummes,  
Let not the heauens heare these tell-taile women  
Raile on the Lord anointed. Strike I say. *The trumpets  
sounds.*  
Either be patient and intreat me faire,  
Or with the clamorous reports of warre,  
Thus will I drowne your exclamations.

*Dur.* are thou my sonne?

*King.* I, I thanke God, my Father and your selfe.

*Dur.* Then patiently heare my impatience.

*King.* Madam I haue a touch of your condition,  
Which cannot brooke the accent of reproofe.

*Dur.* I will be milde and gentle in my speech.

*King.* and brieft good mother for I am in hast.

*Dur.* art thou so hastie I haue staid for thee,  
God knowes in anguish, paine and agonie.

*King.* and came I not at last to comfort you?

*Dur.* No by the holy roode thou knowst it well,  
Thou camst on earth, to make the earth my hell:



A greuous burthen was thy birth to me,  
Tetchie and waierd was thy infancy,  
Thy schoole-daies frightfull, desperate, wild and furious:  
Thy age confirme, proud subtil, bloudie trecherous,  
What comfortable houre canst thou name,  
That euer grac't me in thy company?

*King.* Faith none but *Humphrey* houre, that cald your grace  
To breakfast once forth of my company:  
If it be so gracious in your sight,  
Let me march on and not offend your grace.

*Dut.* O heare me speake, for I shall neuer see thee more.

*King.* Come, come, you are too bitter.

*Dut.* Either thou wilt die by Gods iust ordinance  
Ere from his watter thou turne a conquerour,  
Or I with griefe and extreame age shall perish,  
And neuer looke vpon thy face againe:  
Therefore take with thee my most heauy curse,  
Which in the day of battell tire thee more  
Then all the compleate armour that thou werst,  
My prayers on the aduerser party fight,  
And there the little soules of *Edwards* children  
Whisper the spirits of thine enemyes,  
And promise them successe in victory,  
Bloody thou art and bloody will be thy end,  
Shame serues thy life, and doth thy death attend. *Exit.*

*Qu.* Though farr more cause, yet much lesse spirit to curse  
Abides in me, I say amen to all.

*King.* Stay Madam, I must speake a word with you.

*Qu.* I haue no more sonnes of the royall blood,  
For thee to murder, for my daughters, *Richard*  
They shall be praying nunnes, not weeping Queenes,  
And therefore leuell not to hit their liues,

*King.* You haue a daughter cald *Elizabeth*,  
Vertuous and faire, royall and gracious.

*Qu.* And must she die for this? O let her liue,  
And Ile corrupt her manners, staine her beauty,  
Slander my selfe, as false to *Edwards* bed,  
Throw ouer her the vaile of infamy,  
So she may liue vnscarde from bleeding slaughter,

I will confesse she was not *Edwards* daughter;

*King.* Wrong not her birth shee is of royall blood.

*Qu.* To saue her life, Ile say she is not so.

*King.* Her life is onely safest in her birth.

*Qu.* And onely in that safety died her brothers.

*King.* Loe at their birthes good starres are opposite.

*Qu.* No to there liues bad friends were contrary.

*King.* All vnauoyded is the doome of destiny,

*Qu.* True when auoyded grace makes destiny,

My babes were destinde to a fairer death,

If grace had blest thee with a fairer life.

*King.* Madam so thriue I in my dangerous attempt of hostile  
As intend more good to you and yours, (armes,  
Then euer you and yours were by me wrong'd.

*Qu.* What good is couered with the face of heauen,  
To be discovered that can doe me good.

*King.* The aduancement of your children mighty Lady,

*Qu.* Vp to some scaffold, there to loose their heads.

*King.* No to the dignity and height of honor,  
The hight imperiall tipe of this earths glory.

*Qu.* Flatter my sorrowes with report of it,  
Tell me what state, what dignity, what honor,  
Canst thou demise to any childe of mine.

*King.* Euen all I haue, yea and my selfe and all,  
Will I endow a child of thine,  
So in the Lethe of thy angry soule,  
Thou drown the sad remembrance of those wrongs  
Which thou supposest I haue done to thee.

*Qu.* Be brieue, least that the proceffe of thy kindnesse  
Last longer telling then thy kindnesse doo.

*King.* Then know that from my soule I loue thy daughter,

*Qu.* My daughters mother thinkes it with her soule.

*King.* What doe you thinke?

*Qu.* That thou doest loue my daughter from thy soule,  
So from thy soule didst thou loue her brothers,  
And from my hearts loue, I thanke thee for it,

*King.* Be not so hastie to confound my meaning,  
I meane that with my soule I loue thy daughter,  
And meane to make her Queene of England.



The Tragedie

*Qu.* Say then who doest thou meane shall be her King?

*King.* Euen he that makes her Queene, who should else?

*Qu.* What thou?

*King.* I, euen I, what thinke you of it Madam?

*Qu.* How canst thou wee her?

*King.* That I would learne of you,  
As one that were best acquainted with her humor.

*Qu.* And wilt thou learne of me?

*King.* Madam with all my heart,

*Qu.* Send to her by the man that slew her brothers  
A paire of bleeding hearts, thereon ingraue,  
*Edward* and *Yorke*, then happily she will weepe,  
Therefore present to her, as sometimes *Margret*  
Did to thy Father, a handkercheffe steeped in *Rutlands* blood,  
And bid her drie her weeping eyes therewith,  
If this inducement force her not to loue,  
Send her a story of thy noble acts:

Tell her thou mad'st away her vnckle *Clarence*,  
Her Vncle *Rivers*, yea; and for her sake  
Made'st quicke conueiance with her good Aunt *Anne*.

*King.* Come, come, ye mocke me, this is not the way  
To winne your daughter.

*Qu.* There is no other way,  
Vnlesse thou couldst put on some other shape,  
And not be *Richard* that hath done all this,

*King.* Inferre faire *Englands* peace by his alliance.

*Qu.* Which she shall purchase with still lasting warre.

*King.* Say that the King which may command intreats.

*Qu.* That at her hands which the Kings king forbid.

*King.* Say she shall be a high and mighty Queene.

*Qu.* To waile the title as her mother doth.

*King.* Say I will loue her euerlastingly.

*Qu.* but how long shall that title euer last?

*King.* Sweetly inforce vnto her faire liues end,

*Qu.* But how long fairely shall that title last?

*King.* So long as heauen and nature lengthens it.

*Qu.* So long as hell and *Richard* likes of it.

*King.* Say I her soueraigne am her subiect loue.

*Qu.* But she your subiect loths such soueraingtie.

*King.*

Of *Richard the Third*

*King.* Be eloquent in my behalfe to her.

*Qu.* An honest tale speeds best being plainly told.

*King.* I then in plaine tearmes tell her my louing tale.

*Qu.* Plaine and not Honest is to harsh a stile,

*King.* Madam your reasons are too shallow and to quicke,

*Qu.* O no my reasons are to deepe and dead:

Too deepe and dead poore infants in there graue,  
Harpe on it still shall I, till heart-strings breake,

*King.* Now by my George, my Garter, and my Crowne.

*Qu.* Prophain'd, dishonor'd, and the third vsurped,

*King.* I swere by nothing,

*Qu.* By nothing for this is no oath,

The George prophain'd, hath lost his holy honour:

The Garter blemisht, pawn'd his Knightly vertue:

The Crowne vsurpt disgrac't his Kingly dignity,

If nothing thou wilt swere to be beleued,

Swear then by something that thou hast not wrong'd,

*King.* Now, by the world:

*Qu.* Tis full of thy foule wrongs:

*King.* My Fathers death:

*Qu.* Thy selfe hath that dishonor'd.

*King.* Then by my selfe.

*Qu.* Thy selfe, thy selfe misus'd:

*King.* Why then by God:

*Qu.* Gods wrong is most of all:

If thou hadst fear'd, to breake an oath by him,

The vnity the King thy brother made,

Had not beene broken, nor my brother slaine.

If thou hadst fear'd to breake an oath by him,

The Imperiall mettrall circling now thy brow,

Had grac't the tender temples of my child,

And both the Princes had beene breathing here,

Which now two tender play-fellowe for dust,

Thy broken faith hath made a prey for wormes.

*King.* By the time to come.

*Qu.* That thou hast wrong'd in time orepast,

For I my selfe haue many teares to wash

Hereafter time for time, by the past wrong'd,

The children liue, whose parents thou hast slaughtered,

K 3

V 3



*The Tragedie*

Vngouern'd youth, to waile it with her age,  
The parents liue whole children thou hast butchered,  
Old withred plants to waile it with their age:  
Swear not by time to come for that thou hast  
Misused, ere vsed, by time misused orepast.

*King.* As I intend to prosper and repeat,  
So thrine I in my dangerous attempt  
Of hostile armes, my selfe, my selfe confound,  
Day yeeld me not thy light, nor night thy rest,  
Be opposite all planets of good lucke  
To my proceedings, if with pure hearts loue,  
Immaculated deuotion, holy thoughts,  
I render not thy beauteous princely daughter,  
In her consists my happinesse and thine.

Without her followes to this land and me,  
To thee her selfe and many a Christian soule,  
Sad desolate ruine and decay,  
It cannot be auoided but by this:  
It will not be auoided but by this:

Therefore good Mother (I must call you so)  
Be the attorney of my loue to her.

Plead what I will be, not what I haue beene,  
Not by deserts, but what I will deserue:

Vrge the necessitie and state of times,  
And be not peeuish fond in deepe designs.

*Qu.* Shall I be tempted of the diuell thus?

*King.* I, if the Diuell tempt thee to doe good,

*Qu.* Shall I forget my selfe to bee my selfe?

*King.* I, if your selues remembrance wroug your selfe.

*Qu.* But thou didst kill my Children.

*King.* but in your daughters wombe Ile bury them,  
Wherein that nest of spicery there shall breed,  
Selfes of themselves to your recomfiture,

*Qu.* Shall I goe win my daughter to thy will?

*King.* And be a happie mother in the deed.

*Qu.* I goe, writ to me very shortly.

*King.* Beare her my true loues kisse: farewell. *Exit, Qu.*  
Relenting foole and shallow changing woman!

*Rat.* My gracious soueraigne on the Westerne coast,

*of Richard the Third.*

Rideth a puissant Nauie: To the shore,  
Throng many doubtfull hollow-barted friends,  
Vnarm'd and vnresolu'd to beate them backe:

Tis thought that *Richmond* is their Admirall:

And there they hull expecting but the aide,

Of *Buckingham*, to welcome them a shore,

*King.* Some light-foot friend post to the D, of *Norfolke*.

*Ratcliffe* thy selfe, or *Catesby*, where is he?

*Cat.* Heere my Lord.

*King.* Flic to the Duke: post thou to *Salisbury*,

When thou comest there, dull vnmindfull villaine

Why stands thou still, and goest not to the Duke?

*Cat.* First mightie soueraigne let me know your mind,

What from your grace I shall deliuer him.

*King.* O true good *Catesby*, bid him leuie straight,

The greatest strength and power he can make,

And meete me presently at *Salisbury*.

*Rat.* What is your highnesse pleasure I shal do at *Salisbury*?

*King.* Why, what shouldst thou doe there before I goe?

*Rat.* Your Highnesse told me I should post before.

*King.* My minde is chang'd sir, my minde is chang'd:

How now what newes with you;

*Dar.* None good my Lord to please you with hearing,

Nor none so bad but it may well be told.

*King.* Hoidaie a riddle neither good nor bad:

Why dost thou runne so many miles about,

When thou maiest tell thy tale a neerer way,

Once more what newes;

*Dar.* *Richmond* is one the seas.

*King.* There let him sinke, and be the seas on him,

White liuered runagate what doth he there;

*Dar.* I know not mightie soueraigne but by guesse

*King.* Well sir, as you guesse,

*Dar.* Sturd vp by *Dorset*, *Buckingham*, and *Ely*,

He makes for *England*, there to claime the crowne.

*King.* Is the Chaire empty? Is the sword vnswaid?

Is the King dead? the Empire vnpossess?

What heire of *Torke* is there aliue but we?

And who is *Englands* King, but great *Torques* heire?

K 2

Then



*The Tragidie*

Then tell me what doth he vpon the sea?

*Dar.* Vnlesse for that my Leige I cannot guesse.

*King.* Vnlesse for that he comes to be your Liege,  
You cannot guesse wherefore the Welchmen comes,  
Thou wilt reuolt and flie to him I feare.

*Dar.* No mighty Liege, therefore mistrust me not.

*King.* Where is thy power now to beat him backe?  
Where are thy tenants and thy followers?

Are they not now vpon the western shore,  
Safe conducting the rebels from their ships,

*Dar.* No my good Lord my friends are in the North,

*King.* Cold friends to *Richard*, what do they in the North?  
When they should serue their soueraigne in the West.

*Dar.* They haue not beene commanded mighty soueraigne,  
Please it your Maiesty to giue me leaue,  
He muster vp my friends and meete your grace,  
Where and what time your maiesty shall please?

*King.* I, I, thou wouldst begone to ioyue with *Richmond*,  
I will not trust you sir,

*Dar.* Most mighty soueraigne  
You haue no cause to hold my friendship doubtfull,  
I neuer was nor neuer will be false.

*King.* Well, go muster men; but heare you, leaue behind  
Your son *George Stanley*, looke your faith be ferme:  
Or else his heads assurance is but fraile.

*Dar.* So deale with him, as I proue true to you. *Exit.*

*Enter a Messenger.*

*Mes.* My gracious soueraigne, now in *Deuonshire*,  
As I by friends am well advertised,  
Sir *William Courtney*, and the haughtie Prelate,  
Bishop of *Exeter*, his brother there,  
With many more confederates are in armes,

*Enter another Messenger.*

*Mes.* My Leige in Kent the *Gaulfords* are in armes,  
And euery houre more competitors  
Flocke to their aide, and still there power increaseth,

*Enter another Messenger.*

*Mes.* My Lord the army of the Duke of *Buckingham*.

*He strikes him.*

*of Richard the Third.*

*King.* Out on ye Owles, nothing but songs of death,  
Take that vntile you bring mee better newes.

*Mes.* Your grace mistakes, the newes I bring is good,  
My newes is, that by sudden flood and fall of waters,  
The Duke of *Buckingham*s army is disperst and scattered:  
And he himseife fled no man knowes whither.

*King.* O I cry you mercy I did mistake,  
*Ratcliffe* reward him for the blow I gaue him;  
Hath any well aduised friend giuen out,  
Rewards for him that brings in *Buckingham*?

*Mes.* Such Proclamation hath beene made my Liege.

*Enter another Messenger.*

*Mes.* Sir *Thomas Louell*, and Lord marques *Dorset*,  
Tis said my Liege are vp in armes.  
Yet this good comfort bring I to your grace,  
The Brittain Naue is disperst, *Richmond* in *Dorset shire*,  
Sent out a boat to aske them one the shore,  
If they were his assistants, yea, or no:

Who answered him they came from *Buckingham*  
Vpon his patrie: he mistrusting them,  
Hoist saile, and made away for Brittain.

*King.* March on, march on since we are vp in armes.  
If not to fight with forraine enemyes,  
Yet to beat downe these rebels here at home.

*Enter Catesby.*

*Cat.* My Liege, the Duke of *Buckingham* is taken,  
Thats the best newes, that the Eare of *Richmond*  
Is with a mightie power landed at *Milford*,  
Is colder newes, yet they must be told.

*King.* Away towards *Salisbury*, while we reason here,  
A royall battell might bee wonne and lost.  
Some one take order *Buckingham* be brought  
To *Salisbury*, the rest march on with me.

*Enter Darby, Sir Christopher.*

*Dar.* Sir *Christopher*, tell *Richmond* this from me,  
That in the stie of this most bloody bore,  
My son *George Stanley* is franckt vp in hold,  
If I reuolt off goes yong *Georges* head,  
The feare of that, with-holds my present aide,

*But*



*The Tragedie*

But tell me, where is princely *Richmond* now?

*Chri.* At *Pembrooke*, or at *Hertford* west in *Wales*.

*Dar.* What men of name resort to him?

*Chri.* Sir *Walter Herbert*, a renowned souldier,  
Sir *Gilbert Talbot*, sir *William Stanley*,  
*Oxford*, redoubted *Pembrooke*, sir *James Blunt*,  
*Rice ap Thomas*, with a valiant crew,  
With many more of noble fame and worth,  
And towards *London* they doe bend their course,  
If by the way they be not fought withall.

*Dar.* Returne vnto my Lord, commend me to him  
Tell him, the Queene hath hartlie consented  
He shall espouse *Elizabeth* her daughter,  
These Letters will resolue him of my mind,  
Farewell.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Buckingham to execution.*

*Buc.* Will not King *Richard* let me speake with him?

*Rat.* No my Lord, therefore be patient.

*Buc.* *Hastings*, and *Edwards* children, *Rivers*, *Gray*,  
Holie King *Henry*, and thy faire sonne *Edward*.

*Vaughan*, and all that haue miscarried,  
By vnderhand corrupted, foule iniustice,  
If that your moodie discontented soules,  
Do through the cloudes behold this present houre,  
Euen for reuenge: mocke my destruction:  
This is All-soules day fellowes, is it not?

*Rat.* It is my Lord.

*Buc.* Why then all-soules, daie is my bodies Doomesday:  
This is the day that in King *Edwards* time  
I wisht might fall one me when I was found  
False to his children, or his wiues allies:  
This is the day where in I wisht to fall,  
By the false faith of him I trusted most:  
This is all-soules day, to my fearefull soule,  
Is the determined, despite of my wronges:  
That high all-seer that I dallied with,  
Hath tūnd my fained prai'r one my head,  
And giuen in earnest what I begd in ieast.  
Thus doth he force the sword of wicked men

*of Richard the Third.*

To turne their points on their maisters bosome:

Now *Margrets* curse is fallen vpon my head,  
When he quoth'she, shall split thy heart with sorrow,  
Remember *Margret* was a propheteesse.  
Come sirs, conuey me to the blocke of shame,  
Wrong hath but wrong, and blame the due of blame.

*Enter Richmond with drummes and trumpets.*

*Rich.* Fellowes in armes, and my most louing friends,  
Bruis'd vnderneath the yoke of tyrannie,  
Thus farre into the bowels of the land,  
Haue we marcht on without impediment:  
And heere receiue we from our father *Stanley*,  
Lines of faire comfort, and encouragement,  
The wretched, bloody, and vsurping boare,  
That spoil'd your sommer-field, and fruitfull vines,  
Swills your warme blood like wash, and makes his trough,  
In your imboweld bosome, this foule swine  
Lies now euen in the center of this Isle,  
Neere to the towne of *Leicester* as we learne:  
From *Tamworth* thither, is but one daies march,  
In Gods name cheare on, couragious friends,  
To reape the haruest of perpetuall peace,  
By this one bloudie triall of sharpe warre.

1 *Lor.* Euery mans conscience is a thousand swords  
To fite against that bloudie homicide.

2 *Lor.* I doubt not but his friends will flie to vs.

3 *Lor.* He hath no friends but who are friends for feare,  
Which in his greatest need will shrinke from him.

*Rich.* all for our aduantage, then in Gods name march,  
True hope is swift, and flies with swallowes wings,  
Kings it makes Gods, and meaner creatures Kings.

*Enter King Richard, Nor. Ratcliffe, Catesby, with others.*

*King.* Heere pitch our tents, euen here in *Bosworth* field,  
Why how now *Catesby*, why lookest thou so sad?

*Car.* My heart is ten times lighter then my looks.

*King.* *Norfolke*, come hither:

*Norfolke*, we must haue knockes ha, must we not?

*Nor.* We must both giue and take, my gracious Lord.

*King.* Vp with my tent, heere will I lye to night;



*The Tragedie*

But where to morrow? well all is one for that:  
Who hath defied the number of the foe;

*Nor.* Six or seven thousand is their greatest number.

*King.* Why, our battalian trebles that account,  
Besides that a Kings name is a tower of strength,  
Which they vpon the aduers party want:

Vp with my tent there valiant Gentlemen,  
Let vs suruey the vantage of the field,  
Call for some men of sound direction,  
Lets want no discipline, make no delay,  
For Lords, to morrow is a busie day,

*Enter Richmond with the Lords.*

*Rich.* The weary Sunne hath made a golden seat,  
And by the bright tracke of his fiery Carre,  
Giues signall of a goodly day to morrow,  
Where is Sir *William Brandon*, he shall beare my stander,  
The Earle of *Pembrooke* keeps his regiment,  
Good Captaine *Blunt*, beare my good night to him,  
And by the second houre in the morning,  
Desire the Earle to see me in my Tent.

Yet one thing more, good *Blunt* before thou goest,  
Where is Lord *Stanley* quartered, dost thou know?

*Blunt.* Vnles I haue mistaine his colours much,  
Which well I am assur'd I haue not done.  
His regiment lieth halfe a mile at least,  
South from the mighty power of the King.

*Rich.* If without perill it be possible,  
Good Captaine *Blunt* beare my good night to him,  
And giue him from me this most needfull scrowle.

*Blunt.* Vpon my life my Lord, Ile vendrtake it.

*Rich.* Farewell Good *Blunt*.  
Giue me some Inke and paper in my tent,  
Ile draw the forme and modle of our battell,  
Limit each leader to his seuerall charge,  
And part in iust proportion our small strength:  
Come let vs consult vpon to morrowes businesse,  
Into our tent, the aire is raw and cold.

*Enter King Richard, Nor. Ratcliffe, Catesby.*

*King.* What is a clocke!

*Of Richard the Thir d.*

*Cat.* It is six of the clocke full supper time.

*King.* I will not sup to night, giue me some Inke and paper,  
What is my Beauer easier then it was?

And all my armour laid into my tent.

*Cat.* It is my Leige, and all things are in readinesse,

*King.* Good *Norfolke* hie thee to thy charge,  
Vse carefull watch, chuse trustie Centinell.

*Nor.* I goe my Lord.

*King.* Stur with the Larke to morrow gentle *Norfolke*.

*Nor.* I warrant you my Lord.

*King.* Catesby.

*Rat.* My Lord.

*King.* Send out a Purseuant at armes  
To *Stanleys* regiment, bid him bring his power  
Before Sun-rising, least his sonne *George* fall  
Into the blind caue of eternall night,  
Fill me a boule of wine, giue me a watch,  
Saddle white *Surrey* for the field to morrow,  
Looke that my stauces be sound and not too heauy *Ratcliffe*.

*Rat.* My Lord.

*King.* Sawest thou the melancholy L. *Northumberland*?

*Rat.* *Thomas* the Earle of *Surrey*, and him selfe,  
Much like Cockshut time, from troupe to troupe  
Went through the army chering vp the souldiers.

*King.* so I am satisfied, giue me a boule of wine,  
I haue not that alacrity of spirit,  
Nor cleare of mind that I was wont to haue:

Set it downe, is Inke and paper ready?

*Rat.* It is my Lord.

*King.* Bid my guard watch, leaue me,  
*Ratcliffe* about the midst of night come to my tent  
And helpe to arme me, leaue me I say.

*Exit Rat.*

*Enter Darby to Richmond in his tent.*

*Dar.* Fortune and victory sit one thy helme.  
*Rich.* All comfort that the darke night can aford,  
Be to thy person, noble father in lawe,  
Tell me how fares our noble mother?

*Dar.* I by attorney blesse thee from thy mother,  
Who prays continually for Richmonds good



*The Tragedie*

So much for that: the silent houres scale on,  
A flakie darknesse breakes within the East,  
In brieft, for so the season bids vs be:  
Prepare thy battell early in the morning,  
And put thy fortune to the arbiterment  
Of bloody strokes and mortall staring warre,  
I as I may, that which I would I cannot,  
With best aduantage will deceiue the time,  
And aide thee in this doubtfull shoocke of armes:  
But one thy side I may not be too forward,  
Least being scene thy tender brother *George*,  
Be executed in his fathers sight.

Farewell, the leasure and the fearefull time:  
Cuts off the ceremonious vowes of loue,  
And ample enterchange of sweete discourse,  
Which so long sundred friends should dwell vpon,  
God giue leasure of these rightes of loue,  
Once more adiew be valiant and speede well.

*Rich.* Good Lords conduct him to his regiment:  
He striue with troubled thoughts to take a nap,  
Least leaden slumber peise me downe to morrow,  
When I should mount with wings of victory:  
Once more good night kind Lords & gentlemen. *Exit.*  
O thou whose captaine I account my selfe,  
Looke one my force with thy gracious eyes:  
Put in there hands thy brusing Irons of wrath,  
That they may crush downe with heauy fall,  
The vsurping helmet of our aduersaries,  
Make vs thy ministers of chastisement:  
That we may praise thee in the victory,  
To thee I doe commend my watchfull soule,  
Ere I let fall the windowes of mine eyes,  
Sleeping and waking, oh, defend me still.

*Enter the ghost of prince Ed. son to Henry the sixth*  
*Ghost to K. Ric.* Let me sit heauy on thy soule to morrow,  
Thinke how thou stabst me in my prime of youth  
At *Tewkesbury*: dispaire and die.

To *Rich.* Be cheerefull *Richmond*, for the wronged soules  
Of

*of Richard the Third.*

Of butchered Princes fight in thy behalfe,  
King *Henries* issue *Richmond* comforts thee.

*Enter the Ghost of Henry the sixth,*  
*Ghost to K. Ric.* When I was mortall my annoiued body,  
By thee was punched full of holes,  
Thinke on the Tower, and me: dispaire and die,  
*Harrie* the sixth bids thee dispaire and die,  
To *Rich.* Vertuous and holy be thou conqueror,  
*Harrie* that Prophefied thou shouldst be King,  
Doth comfort thee in thy sleepe, liue and flourish.

*Enter the Ghost of Clarence.*  
*Ghost.* Let me sit heauy one thy soule to morrow,  
I that was washt to death with fullsome wine,  
Poore *Clarence* by thy guile betrayd to death:  
To morrow in the battell thinke on me,  
And fall thy edgellasse sword, dispaire and die.  
To *Rich.* Thou off-spring of the house of *Lancaster*,  
The wronged heires of *Torke* do pray for thee,  
Good Angels guard thy battell, liue and flourish.

*Enter the ghosts of Rivers, Gray, Vaughan,*  
*Riv.* Let me sit heauy one thy soule to morrow,  
*Rivers*, that died at *Pomfret*, dispaire and die.  
*Gray.* Thinke vpon *Gray*, and let thy soule dispaire.  
*Vaugh.* Thinke vpon *Vaughan*, and with guilty feare  
Let fall thy launce, dispaire and die.  
All to *Rich.* Awake and thinke our wrongs in *Rich.* bosome,  
Will conquer him, awake and win the day.

*Enter the ghost of L. Hastings.*  
*Ghost.* Bloody and guilty, guiltily awake,  
And in a bloody battell end thy dayes.  
Thinke on Lord *Hastings* dispaire and die.  
To *Rich.* Quiet vntroubled soule, awake, awake,  
Arme, fight and conquer for faire *Englands* sake.

*Enter the Ghost of two yong Princes*  
*Ghost.* Dreame on thy consens smothered in the tower  
Let vs be layd with in thy bosome *Richard*,  
And Weigh thee downe to ruine shame and death,  
Thy Nephewes soules bid thee dispaire and die.  
To *R.* Sleepe *Richmond* sleepe in peace, and wake in ioy.

L 3

Good



*The Tragidie*

Good Angels guard thee from the Boares annoy,  
Liue and beget a happy race of Kings:  
*Edwards* unhappy sonnes do bid thee flourish.

*Enter the ghost of Queene Anne his wife.*

*Richard*, Thy wife that wretched *Anne* thy wife.  
That neuer slept a quiet houre with thee;  
Now fils thy sleepe with perturbations,  
To morrow in the battaile thinke one me,  
And fall thy edgelesse sword, despaire and die.  
To *Rich*. Thou quiet soule, sleepe thou aquiet sleepe,  
Dreame of successe and happy victory,  
Thy aduersaries wife doth pray for thee.

*Enter the ghost of Buckingham.*

The first was I that helpt thee to the Crowne,  
The last was I that felt the tyranny,  
O in the battell thinke on *Buckingham*,  
And die in terror of thy guiltinesse:  
Dreame on, dreame on, of bloudie deeds and death,  
Fainting dispaire, dispairing yeeld thy breath.  
To *Rich*. I died for hope ere I could lend thee aid,  
But cheare thy heart, and be thou not dismaid,  
God and good Angels fight on *Richmonds* side,  
And *Richard* fells in height of all his pride.

*K. Richard started out of a dreame.*

*K Rich*. Giue me anothrr horse, bind vp my wounds:  
Haue mercy Iesu: soft I did but dreame.  
O coward conscience, how dost thou afflict me?  
The lights burne blew, it is not deade midnight:  
Cold fearefull drops stand on my trembling flesh,  
What doe I feare my selfe? theres none else by,  
*Richard* loues *Richard*, that is I am I,  
Is there a murtherer here, No. yes I am,  
Then flie, what from my selfe? great reason why,  
Least I reuenge. What? my selfe vpon my selfe;  
Alacke I loue my selfe, wherefore? for any good  
That my selfe hath done vnto my selfe:

*of Richard the Third.*

O no: alas I rather hate my selfe,  
For hatefull deeds committed by my selfe:  
I am a villaine, yet I lye, I am not.  
Foole of thy selfe speake well, foole doe not flatter,  
My conscience hath a thousand seuerall tongues,  
And euery tongue brings in a seuerall tale.  
And euery tale condemnes me for a villaine:  
Periury, in the highest degree,  
Murder, sterne murder, in the dyrest degree,  
All seuerall sinnes, all vsde in each degree,  
Throng all to the barre, crying all, guiltie, guiltie,  
I shall dispaire, there is no creature loues me,  
And if I die, no soule shall pittie me.  
And wherefore should they? since that I my selfe,  
Find in my selfe, no pittie to my selfe.  
Me thought the soules of all that I haue murthered  
Came to my tent, and euery one did threat  
To morrowes vengeance on the head of *Richard*

*Enter Ratcliffe.*

*Rat* My Lord.

*King*. Zounds, who is there?

*Rat*. My Lord tis I: the cately village cocke,  
Haue thrice done salutation to the morne.

Your friends are vp, and buckle on their armour,  
*King*. O *Ratcliffe*, I haue dream'd a fearefull dreame,  
What thinkest thou, will our friends prone all true?

*Rat*. No doubt my Lord.

*King*. O *Ratcliffe* I feare, I feare,

*Rat*. Nay good my Lord be not affraid of shadowes.

*King*. By the Apostle *Paul*, shadowes to night  
Haue strooke more terrour to the soule of *Richard*,  
Then can the substance of ten thousand souldiers  
Armed in prooffe, and led by shallow *Richmond*.  
Tis not yet neere day come goe with me,  
Vnder our tents Ile play the ewese-dropper,  
To heare if any meane to shrinke from me.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter the lords to Richmond.*

*Lords*. Good morrow *Richmond*.



*The Tragedie*

*Rich.* Cry mercy Lords, and watchfull gentle men,  
That you haue tane a rardy sluggard heere.

*Lor.* How haue you slept my Lord?

*Rich.* The sweetest sleepe, and fairest boding dreames,  
That euer entred in a drowfie head,  
Haue I since your departure had my Lord;  
Me thought their soules whose body *Richard* murdered,  
Came to my tent and cried on victory:  
I promise you my soule is very iocund,  
In the remembrance of so faire a dreame;  
How farre into the morning is it Lords?

*Lor.* Vpon the stroke of foure.

*Rich.* Why then tis time to arme, and giue direction.  
More then I haue said, louing country-men, *(His Oration to*  
The leisure and inforcement of the time, *(his souldiers.*  
Forbids to dwell vpon, yet remember this,  
God, and our good cause, fight vpon our side,  
The prayers of holy Saints and wronged soules,  
Like high reard bulwarkes, stand before our faces,  
*Richard* except, those whom we fight against,  
Had rather haue vs winne; then him they follow:  
For what is he they follow? truly gentlemen,  
A bloudie tyrant, and a homicide.  
On raised in bloud, and one in bloud established:  
One that made meanes to come by that he hath,  
And slaughtered those that were the meanes to helpe him:  
A bace foule stone, made precious by the soyle  
Of *Englands* chaire, where he is falsly set,  
On that hath euer beene Gods enemy:  
Then if you fight against Gods enemy,  
God will in iustice ward you as his souldiers:  
If you sweare to put a tyrant downe,  
You sleepe in peace the tyrant being slaine,  
If you doe fight against your cuntryes foes,  
Your cuntries fat, shall pay your paines the hire.  
If you doe fight in safegard of your wiues,  
Your wiues shall welcome home the conquerours:  
If you doe free your children from the sword,  
Your childrens children quits it in your age:

*of Richard the Third.*

Then in the name of God and all these rights,  
Aduaunce your standards draw your willing swords  
For me, the ransome of my bold attempt,  
Shall be this cold corps on the earths cold face:  
But if I thrive, the gaine of my attempt,  
The least of you shall share his part thereof,  
Sound drumes and trumpets boldly, and cheerefully,  
God, and Saint *George*, *Richmond*, and victory.

*Enter King Richard, Rat. &c.*

*King.* What sayd *Northumberland* as touching *Richmonds*?

*Rat.* That he was neuer train'd vp in armes.

*King.* He sayd the truth, and what said *Surrey* then.

*Rat.* He smiled and sayd, the better for our purpose.

*King.* He was in the right, and so indeed it is:

Tell the clocke here *The clocke striketh*

Giue me a Kalender, who saw the sunne to day?

*Rat.* Not I my Lord,

*King.* then he disdaines to shine, for by the booke,  
He should haue brau'd the East an houre agoe,  
A blacke day will it be to some body,

*Rat.* My Lord.

*King.* The sunne will not be seene to day,  
The skie doth frowne and lowre vpon our army,  
I would these dewie teares were from the ground,  
Not shine to day, why, what is that to me  
More then to *Richmond*? for the selfe-same heauen  
That frownes on me looke sadly vpon him.

*Enter Norfolk,*

*Nor.* Arme, arme, my Lord, the foe vaunts in the field.

*King.* Come bustle, bustle, caparison my horse,

Call vp Lord *Stanley*, bid him bring his power,

I will lead forth my souldiers to the plaine,

And thus my battell shall bee ordered.

My fore-ward shall be drawne in length,

Consisting equally of horse and foote.

Our archers shall be placed in the midst,

*John Duke of Norfolk, Thomas Earle of Surrey*

Shall haue the leading of the foote and horse,

They thus directed, we will follow

M

In



*The Tragedie*

In the maine battell, whose puiſſance on either ſide  
Shall bee well winged with our chiefeſt horſe ?  
This, and Saint *George* to boote, what thinkeſt thou not.

*Nor.* A good direction warlike ſoueraigne,  
This found I one my tent this morning.

*Lackey of Norfolk, be not to bold,  
For Dickon thy maſter is bought and ſold.*

*King.* A thing deuifed by the enemy,  
Goe Gentlemen euery man vnto his charge,  
Let not our babling dreames affright our ſoules,  
Conſcience is a word that towards vs,  
Deuiſeas firſt to keepe the ſtrong in awe,  
Our ſtrong armes be our conſciences, our ſwords our lawe,  
March on, ioyne brauely, let vs too it pell mell,  
If not to heauen, then hand in hand to hell,  
What ſhall I ſay more then I haue inſord,  
Remember who you are in cope withall,  
A ſort of vababonds, Raſcals, and run-awayes,  
A ſcum of Brittaines, and baſe lackey peſants,  
Whome their ore cloyed cuntry vomits forth  
To deſperate aduentures and aſſur'd deſtruction,  
You ſleeping ſafe they bring you to vnreſt :  
You hauing lands, and bleſt with beautious wiues,  
They would reſtrain the one, diſtaine the other,  
And who doth lead them but a paltry fellow?  
Long kept in Brittain at our mothers coſt,  
A milke-ſop one that neuer in his life  
Felt ſo much cold as ouer ſhoes in ſnow :  
Lets whip theſe ſtraglers ore the ſeas againe,  
Laſh hence theſe outweeing rags of *France*,  
Theſe famiſht beggers weary of their liues,  
Who but for dreaming on this fond exploit,  
For want of meanes poore rats had hang'd themſelues.  
If we be conquered let men conquer vs,  
And not theſe baſtard Brittaines whom our fathers  
Haue in their owne land beaten, bob'd and thumpt,  
And on record left them the heire of ſhame.  
Shall theſe enioy our lands, lie with our wiues ?  
Rauish our daughters, harke I heare there drum,

*He ſheweth  
him a paper.*

*His oration  
to his army.*

*Rich.*

*of Richard the Third.*

Right Gentlemen of *England* fight boldly yeomen,  
Draw Archers, draw you arowes to the head,  
Spur your proud horſes hard, and ride in blood,  
Anaze the welkin with your broken ſtaues,  
What ſaies Lord Stanley will he bring his power ?

*Meſ.* My Lord he doth deny to come.

*King.* Off with his ſoane *Georges* head.

*Nor.* My Lord the enemy is paſt the marſh,  
After the battell let *George Stanley* die.

*King.* A thouſand hearts are great with in my boſome,  
Aduaunce our ſtandards, ſet vpon our foes,  
Our ancient word of courage faire Saint *George*  
Inſpire vs with the ſpeeche of fiery Dragons,  
Vpon them, victory ſits one our helpeſ.

*Alarme excuſions, Enter Catesby.*

*Cat.* Reſcaw my Lord of *Norfolke*, reſcaw reſcaw,  
The King enactes more wonders then a man,  
Daring an oppoſite to euery danger,  
His horſe is ſlaine, and all one foote he fights,  
Seeking for *Richmond* in the throat of death,  
Reſcaw, faire Lord, or elſe the day is loſt. *Enter Richard*

*King.* A horſe, a horſe my Kingdome for a horſe.

*Cat.* Withdraw my Lord, ile helpe you to a horſe.

*King.* Slave I haue ſet my life vpon a caſt,  
And I will ſtand the hazard of the die,  
I thinke there be fixe *Richmonds* in the field,  
Fieue haue I ſlaine to day inſtead of him.  
A horſe, a horſe, my kingdome for a horſe:

*Alarme, Enter Richard & Richmond, they fight, Richard is  
ſlaine then reſtrait being ſounded. Enter Richmond. Darby  
bearing the Crowne with other Lords.*

*Rich.* God and your arme be praiſed victorious friends,  
The day is ours the bloudie dog is dead.

*Dar.* Courageous *Richmond*, well haſt thou acquit thee,  
Loe heere this long viſurped royalties,  
From the dead temples of this bloody wretch,  
Haue I pluckt off to grace thy browes with all,  
Weare it, and make much of it.

*Rich.* Great God of heanen ſay Amen to all,

M 2.



*The Tragedie*

But tell me, is yong *George Stanley* liuing?

*Dar.* He is my Lord, and safe in *Lester* towne,  
Whether if it please you, we may now withdraw vs.

*Rich.* what men of name are slaine one either side?

*John Duke of Norfolk, Walter Lord Ferris, sir  
Robert Brokenbury, sir William Brandon.*

*Rich.* Enter their bodies as become their births,

Proclaime a pardon to the souldiers fled,

That in submission will returne vs,

And then as we haue tane the Sacrament,

We will vnite the white rose and red,

Smile heauen vpon this faire coniunction,

That long hath frown'd vpon their enmity.

What traytor heares me, and sayes not Amen?

*England* hath long beene mad, and scard her selfe,

The brother blindly shed the brothers blood,

The father rashly, slaughtered his owne sonne,

The sonne compeld, beene butcher to the fire,

All this deuided *Yorke* and *Lancaster*,

Deuided in there dire diuision.

O now let *Richmond* and *Elizabeth*,

The true succeders of each royall house,

By Gods faire ordinance conioyne together,

And let thy heires (God if they will be so)

Enrich the time to come with smooth-fac't peace,

With smiling plenty and faire prosperous daies,

Abate the edge of traitors gracious Lord,

That would reduce these bloudie dayes againe,

And make poore *England* weepe in streames of blood,

Let them not liue to tast this lands increase,

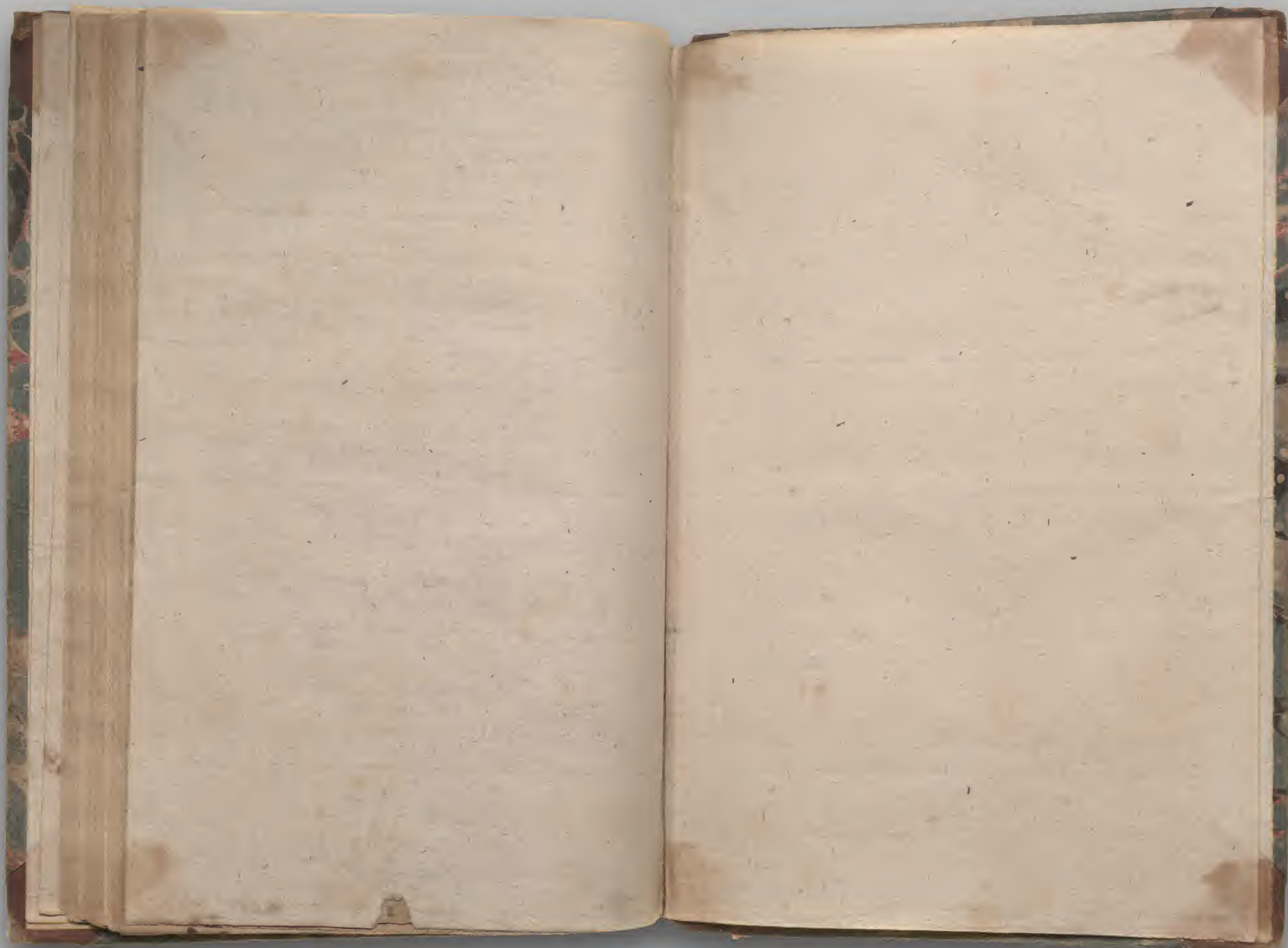
That would with treason wound this faire lands peace.

Now ciuell wounds are stopt, peace liues againe,

That she may long liue heare, God say Amen.

*FINIS.*







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